

# TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF SCOUTING

THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE BOY SCOUT  
MOVEMENT FROM ITS INCEPTION



— E. K. WADE —

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Editor's Note:

The reader is reminded that these texts have been written a long time ago. Consequently, they may use some terms or express sentiments which were current at the time, regardless of what we may think of them at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. For reasons of historical accuracy they have been preserved in their original form.

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## ROYAL SCOUTS

*(Photos: E. O. Hoppé; Lamyette; Central News; Vandyk; Wilding)*

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THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE BOY SCOUT  
MOVEMENT FROM ITS INCEPTION

BY

E. K. WADE

AUTHOR OF

“THE PIPER OF PAX, THE LIFE STORY OF SIR ROBERT BADEN-POWELL”

ILLUSTRATED WITH SIXTEEN PAGES OF PHOTOGRAPHS

*Originally Published*

London

C. Arthur Pearson Ltd.

Henrietta Street

*First Published 1929*

Originally Printed in Great Britain at

*The Mayflower Press, Plymouth.* William Brendon & Sons, Ltd.



TO

THE CHIEF SCOUT

AND

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

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## FOREWORD

IN presenting the first official History of the Boy Scout Movement to those interested enough to trace its development from the "acorn" sown on Brownsea Island in 1907 to the "oak" which spreads its ever-growing branches throughout the world to-day, I have to thank a large number of people for their co-operation.

I should like to thank, first, the Chief Scout and Imperial Headquarters, as well as the Chief Guide and Girl Guide Headquarters for their help and for placing at my disposal records without which the compilation of this book would have been impossible.

To Mr. P. W. Everett, one of the original "Brownsea" campers and a Scout from that day to this, I am indebted for much valuable help.

To Mr. F. Haydn Dimmock, the Editor of *The Scout* and a Boy Scout of very early days I also owe most grateful thanks for his active co-operation and help in putting the book together.

I also owe a good deal to my husband, who was a Scoutmaster from 1908 and who, with the born collector's eye to posterity, saved from the wastebasket many "first drafts," rough sketches, posters, etc., which have been invaluable in completing the record.

From the vast amount of material thus placed at my disposal by these and many others interested in the History, I have endeavoured to select for record incidents which had their definite bearing on the progress of the movement as a whole and which marked important steps in development.

If some of the documents quoted at length make dull reading I can only say in explanation that they are included because without them the History would be incomplete; and this book purports to be history and not fiction.

E. K. W.

BENTLEY, HANTS.

May 1929.

# TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF SCOUTING

## CHAPTER I

### THE ORIGIN OF SCOUTING FOR BOYS

*Birth of the idea — B.P.'s Scouting experiences at school — Scouting with his brothers — The Mafeking Boys — The South African Constabulary — "Aids to Scouting" published.*

“Not in the thick of the fight  
Not in the press of the odds  
Do the heroes come to their height  
Or we know the demigods



They are too near to be great  
But our children shall understand  
When and how our fate  
Was changed and by whose hand.”

R. KIPLING.

HISTORY cannot be written while it is being lived.

It will require the cold, unprejudiced eye of the student of sociology of the next generation to see, and the hand unshaken by the thrill of contact to set down, a fair and impersonal account of the rise and growth of a Movement such as Scouting for Boys.

Yet such far-off historians do not always have a good opportunity of presenting the case, through lack of documentary evidence; and this book is an attempt to set down the actual facts which led to the establishment and surrounded the building up of the Boy Scout training.

Dean Russell, Professor of Columbia University, New York, has stated:

“I declare the Boy Scout Movement to be the most significant educational contribution of our time . . . . As a teacher I take my hat off to the genius of Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who in a bare decade has done more to vitalise the methods of character training than all the Schoolmen in this country have done since the pilgrims landed on the New England coast.”

A question frequently asked, even by those who have served long in the Association is “When did the Boy Scout Movement actually start?” — and it is a question which I believe even Sir Robert Baden-Powell himself would find hard to answer.

In the next chapter I give the dates of the first actual events and publications after the Boy Scout scheme had taken definite shape; but those of us who have studied the life of the Chief Scout realise that the idea was evolving and developing many years before it took concrete form.

Perhaps the main distinction between a “Movement” — as the Boy Scouts — and an Organisation — as, say, the Elementary Schools — is that in the former case it is almost impossible to give any definite dates since it is the evolution of an idea rather than the organisation of a system.

Attempt has been made to fix the date of the Scout Movement at 1908, when the handbook *Scouting for Boys* was published, or, at earliest, at 1907, when a trial camp of boys was held.

The letter here reproduced, written by Sir Robert in reply to a request from a Boys' Club for a “message” and dated 20th July, 1901, places at least one of the Boy Scout tenets, that of the “good turn,” very much earlier.

ZUURFONTEIN, TRANSVAAL,

20th July, 1901.

MY DEAR BOYS,

The Rules of your Association bind you to keep yourselves clear of Drinking, Smoking, Gambling and Dirty Talking, etc.

You cannot do better than follow these Rules, and I admire you for carrying them out as you do.

Other boys who have not the pluck to join you or to stick to such rules as yours will probably slide into bad habits from which they will never escape, and the rest of their lives will in many cases be a tale of misery and failure: while you, coming sober and clean-minded from your Club, are bound to get on well when you grow up — if you stick to it.

But remember this:

When soldiers defend a place they don't only sit quiet to do it, but they also make counter-attacks against the enemy to drive him off.

So you should not be content with sitting down to defend yourself against evil habits, but should also be active in doing good.

By "doing good" I mean making yourselves useful and doing small kindnesses to other people — whether they are friends or strangers.

It is not a difficult matter, and the best way to set about it is to make up your mind to do at least one "good turn" to somebody every day, and you will soon get into the habit of doing good turns always.

It does not matter how small the "good turn" may be — even if it is only to help an old woman across the street, or to say a good word for somebody who is being badly spoken of. The great thing is to do *something*.

When a man is dying he is not so much afraid of death as of feeling that he might have made better use of his time while he was alive.

The man who has done "good turns" all his life has nothing to fear when dying.

If he feels that he has done some good to his fellow-creatures he is happier even than the man who has merely kept himself clear of evil ways.

So I suggest to each one of you who reads this letter that you should not only keep yourself from Drink and the evils which accompany it, but should also try to keep doing good turns to people around you.

You might begin it this very day, and if you like to write and tell me about the first "good turn" you do I shall be glad to hear it.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT BADEN-POWELL.

The Chief Scout himself dates his personal Scouting experiences from his schooldays. Writing in the *Boys' Own Paper* in 1926, he confesses that he really began Scouting "half out of bounds at school. Our playing fields were on the plateau top of a hill, whose steep sides were clothed with a regular jungle of brushwood and copse. And there I used to sniggle away and set snares for rabbits. If and when I caught one — which was not always — I skinned him and cooked him and ate him — and lived.

"But in doing this I learned to creep silently, to know my way by landmarks, to note tracks and read their meaning, to use dry dead wood off trees and not off the ground for my fire, to make a tiny non-smoky fire such as would not give me away to prying masters; and if these came along I had my sod ready to extinguish the fire and hide the spot while I shinned up some neighbouring ivy-clad tree where I could nestle unobserved above the line of sight of the average searcher . . . Well, I got these early notions of creeping about, observing sign and reading its meaning, in the woods when I was at school.

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“Later on when I got into the Army, I found its value when I was able to track and recover a valuable horse that had strayed; to gain kudos for my squadron at manœuvres by creeping through the enemy’s outposts at night, and various other small but important acts of Scouting which are all told in my book of *Indian Memories*.

“But they were the steps which finally brought me to teach young fellows in my regiment the art of Scouting as a preparation for their work on service.

“To such men as qualified and proved themselves good at the work I gave a little badge to wear on their arm. It was a Fleur-de-lis or arrowhead, as given on the compass card or on a map to show the north point.

“After a time the War Office approved it as the badge of a trained Scout for all branches of the service.

“But besides teaching men how to look out for an enemy, Scouting taught them many other things. To be any good at it a man must be able to find his way by night as well as by day across strange country, with possibly only the stars to guide him; he had to be able to cook his own grub, to swim rivers, to hide successfully; in other words, he had to learn pluck and nerve, self-reliance, handiness, endurance, and self-sacrifice, from a sense of duty to his country.

“So by learning Scouting you see these young men became real *men* and good soldiers. And what is more, they enjoyed their soldiering instead of being bored by the discipline and routine.”

In the first number of *The Scout* newspaper, published in April 1908, Sir Robert shed a further light on his own boyhood and early love of Scouting.

“I have suggested Scouting as a good thing for boys because I began it myself when I was a boy, and I know that if you want to enjoy life and get on a great step towards it is to learn Scouting while you are young.

“My own first beginning was in ‘watermanship,’ for we had in the family a small sailing yacht, which we four brothers manned ourselves. This necessitated one of us being cook and crockery washer, and I have not forgotten my first experience in that line. I had to cook the dinner.

“Well, you know what it is when you begin as a Scout to cook you food — it is not quite a success at first. Mine was not either. The dinner was not good; I know it because I ate the whole of it myself, not because I liked it but because I had to. My brothers could not eat it so they made me do so, just as a reminder that I must learn to cook better.

“I accordingly learned a little about cooking after that from a cook at home, and I learned from a baker how to mix flour and water and yeast to make dough for bread.

“I picked up a lot of Scouting when living in town by noticing what was in shop windows, and remembering the things and the names of shops and streets. I used to look at a map of the town and then go to a strange part of it and try to find my way to some church or other building without asking the direction, merely by remembering the map. I knew every short cut through back alleys and passages.

“I attended every fire that I could get to, and I made friends with firemen and they taught me a lot about how to save people and how to put out fires.

“There is plenty of Scouting to be learnt in towns, just as there is in the country or on the sea.

“I remember how in our sailing-boat we ran on some rocks one day in a rather nasty little sea and, as the boat heeled over and rolled about, I through all was up with us, and I huddled down helplessly, waiting to see what was to happen. I was quite prepared, like the frog in the milk, to give up all efforts to save myself.

“Just then a boat-hook, which had become dislodged, slipped and fell overboard into the sea, and I was thinking how soon I was probably to follow it when I was suddenly recalled to life by a string of remarks from my eldest brother, who was in command, abusing me for sitting by and letting the boat-hook go overboard, and telling me to grab hold of it before it floated out of reach — which I quickly did.

“I then saw that if he was so mighty particular about saving an old boat-hook at that juncture there might be some hope for saving ourselves. So I bucked up and set to work to help the others.

In the end we got off safe and sound. But that lesson of the boat-hook has been of the greatest use to me many a time in tight places when things were looking very bad. I have remembered that then was the time to wake up and work extra hard and not to give in, and if people round about were looking glum and nervous, the thing was to suggest some small thing to think about and to carry out, to remind them that matters were not so hopeless after all.

“For instance, in the case of an unpleasantly strong attack by the enemy, when some people were beginning to think that things looked bad for us, it came in useful to sing out — ‘Where’s the cook? Isn’t it about time we had breakfast?’ and that seemed to set them all right again and to give them heart to carry on.

“We not only sailed our boat round most of the coast of England, but we also made boat expeditions inland in a small folding-up canvas boat, which was great fun. We explored the Thames pretty nearly up to its source in the Chiltern Hills, and we got on to the Avon, which rises on the other side of the same hills, and went down it through Bath and Bristol to the Severn; then we crossed the Severn and went up the Wye into Wales. We carried our tent and cooking-pots with us and slept out in camps every night and had a real good time.

“Of course, to do this we had to be handy-men — to understand all about rowing and managing the boat, how to swim, how to tie knots, how to light fires and cook food, how to build shelters and to drain a wet camp, and so on.

“We used to get leave from the owner of the land where we stopped to take a rabbit or catch some fish for food. To get a rabbit we either set a snare or, what was better fun, we stalked him with a little saloon pistol.

“One evening I was doing this at a place where, I am sorry to say, we had *not* got leave. There was no house to be seen, and we were late and short of food.

“I was creeping up behind a bush to get within shot of a fine rabbit, who was squatting in the grass, when I thought I heard a cracking of leaves and sticks the other side of the bush. A horrible idea struck me that a keeper was there stalking *me*, so I quickly slid back and crept away again as quietly as I could. When I had got some little distance I squirmed round, still lying flat on the ground, to see if I was being followed, and then I saw another fellow creeping away from the bush in the opposite direction.

“He, too, was a poacher who had likewise heard me and thought I was a keeper and we were both wriggling away from each other! So I had another look at the rabbit, but he, cunning beggar, was sitting there, and I could almost swear he was giggling; at any rate the next moment he popped into his hole and we got no rabbit for supper that night.

“Much as I liked these boating expeditions, I like tramping ones just as much. In the holidays we used to walk through countries like Wales and Scotland, each of us carrying a bag on his back and sleeping out at night wherever we might happen to be.

“Generally we would call at a farm and buy some milk, eggs, butter, and bread, and ask leave to sleep in a hay-loft if it was bad weather. Otherwise, in summer time, it was very nice to sleep in the open alongside a hedge or a haystack, using hay or straw or old newspapers as blankets if it was cold. In this way we got round a lot of splendid country, where we could see all sorts of animals and birds and strange flowers and plants, of which we took notes in our log; and we had to make our way by the map which we carried, and at night we used to learn to find our way in the dark by using different set of stars as our guide. We made sketches of any old castles, abbeys or other buildings that we saw and read up or got someone to tell us their history.

“When we got to any big town we used to ask leave to go over one of the factories to see what they made there and how they made it, and we found it awfully interesting to see, for instance, how cloth is made from the sheep’s wool, how paper is made from logs of wood, iron from lumps of stone, china from

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bones and flints powdered up and mixed in a paste and then turned on a potter's wheel, how furniture is made, how engines work, how electricity is used and so on.

"In this way we got to know something about most trades and learnt to do some of them ourselves in a small way, which has often come in useful to us since.

"That was the beginning of my Scouting."

I have quoted the about two extracts at some length to show that the founder of Scouting had himself practised as a boy much of what he later taught first to his young soldiers and eventually to the boys of the world.

Writing in the first part of *Scouting for Boys* in 1908 the Chief Scout said:

"We had an example of how useful Boy Scouts can be on service when a corps of boys was formed in the defence of Mafeking, 1899-1900. Mafeking, you will remember, was quite a small ordinary country town out on the open plains of South Africa. Nobody every thought of its being attacked by an enemy, any more than you would expect your town or village to be attacked — the thing was so improbable.

"But it just shows you how you must BE PREPARED for what is possible, not only for what is probable in war.

"...Well, when we found we were to be attacked at Mafeking we told off our garrison to the points that they were to protect — some 700 trained men, police, and volunteers. And then we armed the townsmen, of whom there were some 300. Some of them were old frontiersmen and quite equal to the occasion; but many of them, young shopmen, clerks, and others, had never seen a rifle before and had never learned to drill or to shoot, and so they were hopelessly at sea at first. It is not much fun to face an enemy who means to kill you when you have never learned to shoot.

"Altogether then we had only about a thousand men all told to defend the place, which contained about 600 white women and children and about 7000 natives, and was about five miles round. Every man was of value, and as their numbers gradually got less, owing to men getting killed and wounded, the duties of fighting and keeping watch at night got harder for the rest.

"It was then that Lord Edward Cecil, the Chief Staff Officer, got together the boys in the place and made them into a cadet corps, put them in uniform, and drilled them, and a jolly smart and useful lot they were. We had till then used a large number of men for carrying orders and messages and keeping look-out and acting as orderlies, and so on. These duties were now handed over to the boy cadets and the men were released to go and strengthen the firing line.

"The cadets, under their sergeant-major, a boy named Goodyear, did right good work, and well deserved the medals which they got at the end of the war. Many of them rode bicycles, and we were thus able to establish a post by which people could send letters to their friends in the different forts or about the town without going under fire themselves; and we made postage stamps for these letters which had on them a picture of a cadet bicycle orderly.

"I said to one of these boys on one occasion when he came in through rather a heavy fire, 'You will get hit one of these days riding about like that when shells are flying.' And he replied, 'I pedal so quick, sir, they'd never catch me.'

"These boys didn't seem to mind the bullets one bit; they were always ready to carry out orders, although it meant risk to their life every time."

During the Siege of Mafeking B.-P. was busy correcting the proofs of a little book on Scouting in the Army, which he called *Aids to Scouting*. This book, as will be shown later, had considerable bearing on the formation of his scheme for boy training later on.

After the South African War came the period of reconstruction for that country, when General Baden-Powell was instructed to raise and command a force of police — the South African Constabulary.

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On the left is a copy of B-P.'s original design for the uniform of a Trooper of the South African Constabulary. On the right, a Boy Scout as he appears in most parts of the world to-day.

To these men he taught a great deal of what we now know as Boy Scouting. It is from the South African Constabulary that the Boy Scout of to-day takes his picturesque uniform of shirt, shorts, scarf, and broad-brimmed hat.

The intention of this introductory chapter has been to show that though the Boy Scout Movement, under that designation, had not yet been born or thought of, yet the idea had always been there, in the mind of the man who was eventually to bring it into being.

The man was busy with other matters, but the vision was there; the seed had been sown and he was patiently waiting for a time to come when it might be brought to fruition.

## CHAPTER II

(1906-1907)

### THE SCHEME IS LAUNCHED

*The Chief decides to work for Youth — Why "Scouting for Boys" was written — Publication of pamphlets explaining the Boy Scout Scheme — Mr. Arthur Pearson comes in to help — The trial camp at Brownsea Island — How the Movement got its name.*

"I like the idea and think it might have good results."

LORD ROBERTS, 1906.

WHEN a great soldier, explorer, scientist or statesman reaches what seems to be the highest point in his career, when his name is on the lips of the world, his photograph in every illustrated journal, his most trivial utterances quoted in the Press, and his autograph the ambition of every schoolboy and girl, it must

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be a great temptation to him to sit down and say, "Now it is someone else's turn" and to drift with the ebbing tide of popularity into a comfortable arm-chair.

So it has been with very many whose names have risen from oblivion to comparative greatness and have died away again in the faint echo of the publicity gained from attendance at public school speech days, at political meetings and parish bazaars, until, when their obituary notices come to be written, the journalist has to work up the facts from the vague impression that "he was a great man in his day."

So it might have been with General Baden-Powell after the South African war, but — fortunately for the youth of the world — it was not.

When he returned to England after the sensational defence of Mafeking, and found himself a hero in the eyes of his fellow-countrymen, he did not rest on his oars.

Rather he said, in effect, "Cannot I harness this hero-worship on to some object worthy of it instead of on to a mere human being? The children look upon me as a leader. While the iron is hot I will strike and give them a lead in something worth while."

Here then was a man to lead, and there also was a mass of material eager to be led. In what way could he make use of the opportunity?

The question soon answered itself.

The book *Aids to Scouting*, written immediately before the South African war, corrected in proof while its author was besieged in Mafeking, and published in January 1900, had had a phenomenal success. Over fifty thousand copies were sold in the first month, principally to men about to leave for the Front. This book, after outlining the qualifications for which an army Scout was selected — e.g. a specially smart, active, intelligent, and trustworthy soldier; good eyesight and hearing; healthy and sound; willing and able to turn his hand to any kind of job; a good rider and able to swim; able to read and write — proceeded to give instruction in the different details essential for Scouting under the headings of:

- Pluck and discretion.
- Finding the way in strange country.
- Quickness of eye.
- Keeping yourself hidden and dodging the enemy.
- Tracking.
- Reading spoor.
- Getting cross country.
- Sketching.
- Reporting.
- Headings for reports.
- Despatch riding.
- Care of man and horse.
- Spying.
- Scouting on service.

This book, though intended purely as a technical handbook for N.C.O.'s and men in the army, was nevertheless written in a style so much more interesting and readable than that of the ordinary military manual that it reached a far wider public, and on his return to England in 1902 Baden-Powell found that it was being largely used by school teachers and boys' clubs for training the children in observation and deduction, leading on to self-reliance, resourcefulness, self-care, and generally to good citizenship.

*Aids to Scouting*, though written for grown-up men and fully fledged soldiers, was also being read by the boys and girls themselves, and these were practising the Scouting exercises and banding themselves into gangs of Scouts to carry them out.

The book, as it stood, was obviously too military and too technical for children, but the fact of its appeal to them inspired the author with the idea that parts of it could be re-written and new material added

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such as would make it an attractive handbook for boys in training themselves for backwoodsmanship and the attributes of explorers, soldiers, sailors, and citizens.

He was confirmed in his opinion by experiences such as the following, which I quote in his own words, with the kind permission of the *Daily Sketch*:

“How did the Boy Scouts start? Oh well! I believe it was largely due to — whom shall we say? — a Field-Marshal’s governess.

“It was in this way. The Brigadier-General, as he was at that time, was riding to his home after a field day when from the branches of a tree overhead his little son called to him, ‘Father, you are shot. I am in ambush, and you have passed under me without seeing me. Remember, you should always look upwards as well as around you.’

“So the General looked upwards and saw not only his small son above him but also, near the top of the tree, the new governess lately imported from Miss Charlotte Mason’s training school at Ambleside.

“Her explanation of the situation was that a vital point in up-to-date education was the incalculable of observation and deduction, and that the practical steps for this were given in the little handbook for soldiers, *Aids to Scouting*.

“This incident was merely one among the various field stunts from that book which might be put into practice by her pupil and herself.

“For example, they might, as another exercise, creep about unseen but seeing all the time, and noting down everything that the General did; they might lead him off on some wild-goose chase while they purloined some tangible proof of their having invaded his sanctum.

“Taken as a warning of what he might expect, I dare say the governess’s explanation opened the General’s eyes pretty widely, if only in regard to his own future security against ambushes and false alarms.

“But when the General told me of his experience my eyes also were opened to the fact that there could be an educative value underlying the principles of Scout training.”

With such evidence, therefore, of the feasibility of Scouting for children, Baden-Powell drafted out, in the spring of 1906, a scheme of action and sent it for criticism to some of the thinking men of the country at that time.

This historic document is quoted in full as of the greatest possible interest to those serving in the Movement.

## BOY SCOUTS

### A SUGGESTION

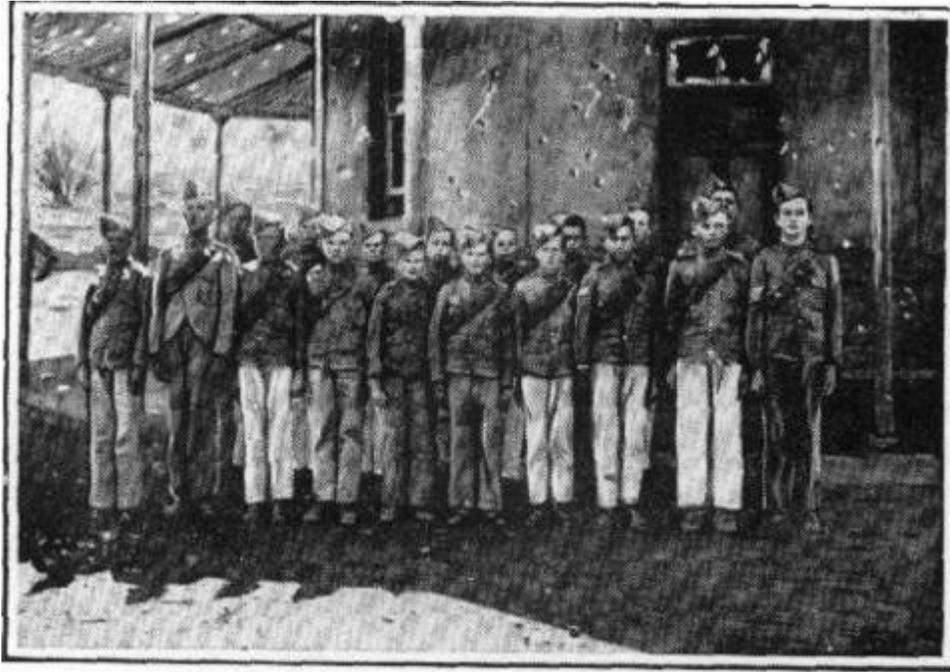
“The same causes which brought about the downfall of the great Roman Empire are working to-day in Great Britain.”

These words were spoken the other day by one of our best-known democratic politicians, and their truth is practically admitted by those who have studied and compared the general conditions of both countries.

The main cause of the downfall of Rome was the decline of good citizenship among its subjects, due to want of energetic patriotism, to the growth of luxury and idleness, and to the exaggerated importance of local party politics, etc.

Personally I am not pessimistic enough to think with some people that we are already so far on the downward grade as to be hopeless; on the contrary, I think that we are only near to the parting of the ways where it becomes incumbent upon every one of us who has the slightest patriotism in him to earnestly help, in however small a way, to turn the rising generation on to the right road for good citizenship.

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BOY ORDERLIES AT MAFEKING



AN "INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE," 1909

To this end the following scheme is offered as a possible aid towards putting on a positive footing the development, moral and physical, of boys of all creeds and classes, by a means which should appeal to them while offending as little as possible the susceptibilities of their elders.

It is intended to be applicable — and not in opposition — to any *existing* organisation for boys, such as schools, boys' brigades, messengers, cricket clubs, cadet corps, etc., or it can supply an organisation of its own where these do not exist — *for there are one and three quarter million boys in the country at present outside the range of these good influences, mostly drifting towards hooliganism for want of a helping hand.*

Many officers of such organisations have asked me for suggestions for developing and keeping up the interest of their boys in their training, and a small handbook which I published for teaching Scouting in the cavalry has, I find, been used to a very considerable extent in teaching children in this country. For these reasons it occurred to me to frame a scheme of Scouting, such as this, specially adapted for boys.

Under the term "Scouting," with its attributes of romance and adventure, I suggest instruction in the many invaluable qualities which go to make a good citizen equally with a good Scout. These include observation and deduction, chivalry, patriotism, self-sacrifice, personal hygiene, saving life, self-reliance, etc., etc.

A somewhat similar idea was started in America a short time back by Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton, and has already attained phenomenal success.

I append herewith for consideration a short summary of my scheme. I propose to give the full details in a small handbook which is intended to serve either as a text-book for instructors or as a self-educator for individual boys.

In the meantime I should be very grateful for any suggestions or criticisms.

R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL  
Lieut.-General.

The enclosure which accompanied the above explanation was numbered 2.

## BOY SCOUTS

### SUMMARY OF SCHEME

For schoolmasters, clergymen, country squires, officers of boys' organisations, cadet corps, Y.M.C.A. cricket and football clubs, boy messengers, etc.

#### SCOUTS.

Men Scouts are of two kinds: War Scouts and Peace Scouts.

A War Scout is a man selected for his reliability, courage, and intelligence to go ahead of a force to find out all about the enemy and the country. On his good work and sense of duty depends very largely the success or failure of the expedition.

A Peace Scout is the kind of man we find among the pioneers and trappers of North-West Canada, explorers and hunters of Africa, prospectors, drovers, and bushmen of Australia, and above all in the Canadian North-West Mounted Police, the South African Constabulary, Royal Irish Constabulary, British South African and numerous other police forces.

For all, whether war or peace Scouts, the following qualities are essential:

*Woodcraft.* That is, ability to live in the open, to kill and cook for themselves, to find their way in unknown countries, to look after their health, and to understand the ways of animals, and to have general resourcefulness and self-reliance.

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*The Power of Observation* must be well developed so that nothing escapes their attention. They must be able to track and to read meaning from footprints and other slightest signs.

*Loyalty to their Duty* must guide their actions when away from the immediate direction of their officers or employers.

*Chivalry* must rule their dealings with other people, that is a kindly comradeship for all others of their kind, and a respect and helpfulness to all women, children, and helpless people.

*Courage and Endurance* are essential, and the men must at all times be prepared to take their lives in their hands and to fling them away without thinking it too great a sacrifice if duty or circumstances demand it.

These are the qualities which a Scout must possess, whether it be for peace or war. But they are also the qualities which make the best citizens in a peaceful community. They can all be acquired under instruction, and they cannot be learned too early in life.

At present there is only too little instruction in these among boys, especially town-bred boys, and this scheme is offered as a small step towards supplying the want.

*Object of Scheme.* To help in making the rising generation, of whatever class or creed, into good citizens at home or for the colonies.

*Reasons.* Designed to fill the following wants:

1. The existing want of instruction among our boys in manly qualities tending to good citizenship.
2. The want of attractiveness in some of the existing organisations for boys.
3. The want of novelty in all for permanently keeping up the boys' interest.

*Method.* Under the attractive name of Scouting a novel form of instruction is given in citizenship, applicable to any existing organisation.

Or where such organisation does not exist a special one can easily be formed.

It is applicable to town or country, Great Britain or a colony.

It includes games and competitions for the maintenance of continued interest.

*Instruction.* Partly indoor, mostly outdoor; adapted to town as well as to country; easy, inexpensive, and useful; developing character and health (not only in the boys but in the instructor as well) by instruction in Scoutcraft.

*Scoutcraft* includes the following subjects and their respective details which are taught theoretically, and also practically by certain tests and games:

1. Discipline. Self-discipline, obedience to Scout Law, self-sacrifice and sense of duty, etc.
2. Observation. Noticing details, tracking, quick sight, deducing meaning from small signs, judging distances, heights, and numbers.
3. Woodcraft. Camping, cooking, natural history, resourcefulness, map reading, finding the way, boating, swimming, carpentering, cycling, marksmanship, astronomy, etc.
4. Health and Endurance. Physical development, exercises and games, cleanliness, non-smoking, continence, sobriety, food, sanitation, etc.
5. Chivalry. Courtesy and helpfulness to women and children, the knights and their code, charity, thrift, honour, courage, cheerfulness.
6. Patriotism. History and geography of Britain and her colonies, the Flag, H.M. Services, deeds that won the Empire, nature of government, etc.
7. Saving Life. Ambulance work, saving life in cases of fire, gas-fumes, drowning, street accidents, panics, etc. The Albert Medal.

*Games.* After first instruction in the above details, interest is maintained by games and competitions in Scoutcraft.

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*Handbook.* An inexpensive handbook called *Scouting for Boys* is being prepared. It contains a progressive course of lessons and practices in each of the above subjects, such as will enable an instructor, though untrained himself, to teach his boys, or it can be used as a self-instructor by an individual boy wishing to teach himself.

*Expense.* Expense should be very small. No apparatus or uniform is absolutely necessary beyond badges.

Chief items of expense where a boys' organisation does not exist already would be hire and lighting of room, stationary, a few books, badges, etc., which could be met by a small subscription from members.

*Organisation.* "Patrols" of six Scouts are formed under a senior boy as Patrol Leader.

Four or more Patrols, up to ten, form a "Troop" under an officer called a "Scoutmaster."

*How to Start.* The Scoutmaster would select six or eight special boys to act as Patrol Leaders of his Troop. These he would put through a course of instruction of about three weeks or a month, with the help of the handbook. If Saturdays and Sundays only are available it will take a little longer. After this each Patrol Leader would form and instruct his Patrol of six Scouts on the same lines under the supervision of the Scoutmaster, to pass a standard test for the privilege of wearing the badge of a Scout. Similarly, where there are not enough boys to form a Troop, a man or boy can form a Patrol of six and instruct them. After which further development could be carried out by games and competitions.

*Understudy.* Each Scoutmaster should have an "Adjutant," i.e. an officer under him as second-in-command and general assistant — ready to take his place at any time.

Similarly in each Patrol there should be a "Corporal" trained to help the Patrol Leader and to act for him when necessary.

Responsibility is thus given to a number of boys.

*Discipline.* The principle is that each Scout is put *on his honour* to carry out orders whether his officer is present or not.

Such was the scheme which General Baden-Powell circulated among those whom he knew to be interested in the training of the oncoming citizens of the country; whenever he got a chance himself he spoke of it, asking advice and opinion, appealing for Scoutmasters, and gauging the feeling of the boys themselves.

The replies and comments which he received on all sides were so encouraging that he determined to proceed with the idea.

Lord Roberts wrote:

ENGLAND.  
ASCOI.  
BERNS.  
18<sup>th</sup> May. 1906.

*Dear Baden Powell*

I am much obliged for your letter of the 6th instant, and for sending me your paper on training boys in scouting. I like the idea and think it may have good results. Boys are very receptive and would enjoy the delights of such training if it were carried out in a satisfactory manner. Good instructors would be needed, and I suppose a certain amount of financial assistance would be required.

I am sure it would be better for boys to spend a day in bicycling in the country near the large towns, and learning to scout and to ascertain the whereabouts of a skeleton enemy than to waste their time, as so many of

them do, in looking on at games in which they are not sufficiently skilled to take part themselves.

*Hoping that your scheme  
may be given a fair trial.  
Believe me  
Yours sincerely  
Robert*

Lord Charles Beresford wrote:

H.M.S. *King Edward VII*,  
Channel Fleet.

MY DEAR BADEN-POWELL,

Thank you for sending me you excellent proposals for the formation of a Boy Scout Corps. I think your ideas are quite capital. The youth of to-day will be responsible for the maintenance of an Empire whose grandeur has never been equalled. Your proposed training and instruction for the Scouts embraces all that should make them good citizens. It will impress upon them chivalrous, unselfish, and honourable sentiments, encourage them to admire pluck, and those that have a strong sense of duty, good order and discipline will help patriotism and further patriotic views; good comradeship is essential for the success of those high motives you have laid down as the guiding spirit of the Scout Corps for boys. Young minds are easily affected by sentiment, more especially when that sentiment is high-minded. May all good luck attend you. Your ideas merit enthusiastic support.

Yours very sincerely,  
CHARLES BERESFORD,  
*Admiral.*

Mr. C. Arthur Pearson (afterwards Sir Arthur Pearson), founder of the publishing firm which bears his name, and himself a lover of children, saw such value in the scheme that he offered to help with the financial and publicity side in launching it, and to place at the General's disposal an office in Goschen Buildings, Henrietta Street, London.

In Mr. P. W. Everett Mr. Pearson's literary manager, Baden-Powell found his most energetic assistant in organising the scheme.

In an address on Scouting broadcast in 1927, Mr. Everett gave the following account of the initiation of Pearson, and subsequently of himself, into the Movement:

"It came about this way. In the early summer of 1907 General B-P. was staying with Pearson at his country place in Surrey, and was just then looking for a man with the right sort of influence and experience to help him launch his scheme, to interest the great public and to draw into his net the right type of organisers to aid him.

"There was a house-party — the guests were amusing themselves, but the host was preparing to slip away. Baden-Powell strolled up beside his waiting motor car.

" 'Where are you off to, Pearson?'

" 'Oh, I am just running over to see a children's cripple home in which I am interested.'

“The car slid off down the drive and B-P. was left thinking. What he thought was ‘Here is my man; a lover of children, a famous organiser, a great newspaper proprietor — he will know how I should man and launch my ship.’

“So he discussed his ideas with Pearson, and in consultation with him worked out his plans for bringing Scouting to the notice of the public.

“ ‘I always look back on that little incident,’ continued Mr. Everett, ‘as one of the great landmarks of Scouting in this country; also with much personal pleasure, as it was the direct cause of my joining the Movement in its initial stages and of assisting in the arrangements for giving the scheme to the world through the handbook *Scouting for Boys* and in the founding of the Scouts’ own organ, *The Scout*, in April 1908.’ ”

**BOY SCOUT**  
**SCHEME.**



By Lieut.-General BADEN-POWELL, K.C.B.

Having secured Pearson’s offer of co-operation, B-P. wanted, before proceeding further, to make sure that his scheme was a practicable proposition and that he was holding out the right kind of bait to catch his fish; so he determined to run an experimental troop of Boy Scouts in camp for a fortnight and to put the training into practice in detail.

As this Troop, which met at Brownsea Island, Dorset, in August 1907, comprised the first Boy Scouts in the world, it seems appropriate that their names should be perpetuated here. They were divided into four “Patrols” — the Curlews, the Ravens, the Wolves, and the Bulls, each Patrol consisting of four boys under a Patrol Leader.

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| CURLEWS — 1. | R. Wroughton, Patrol Leader<br>C. I. Curteis<br>J. Evans Lombe<br>Percy Medway<br>Reginald Giles |
| RAVENS — 2.  | T. Evans Lombe, Patrol Leader<br>A. Brimmer<br>B. Blandford<br>J. Rodney<br>M. Noble             |

WOLVES — 3. G. Rodney, Patrol Leader  
Bertie Watts  
A. Vivian  
T. E. Bonfield  
R. Grant

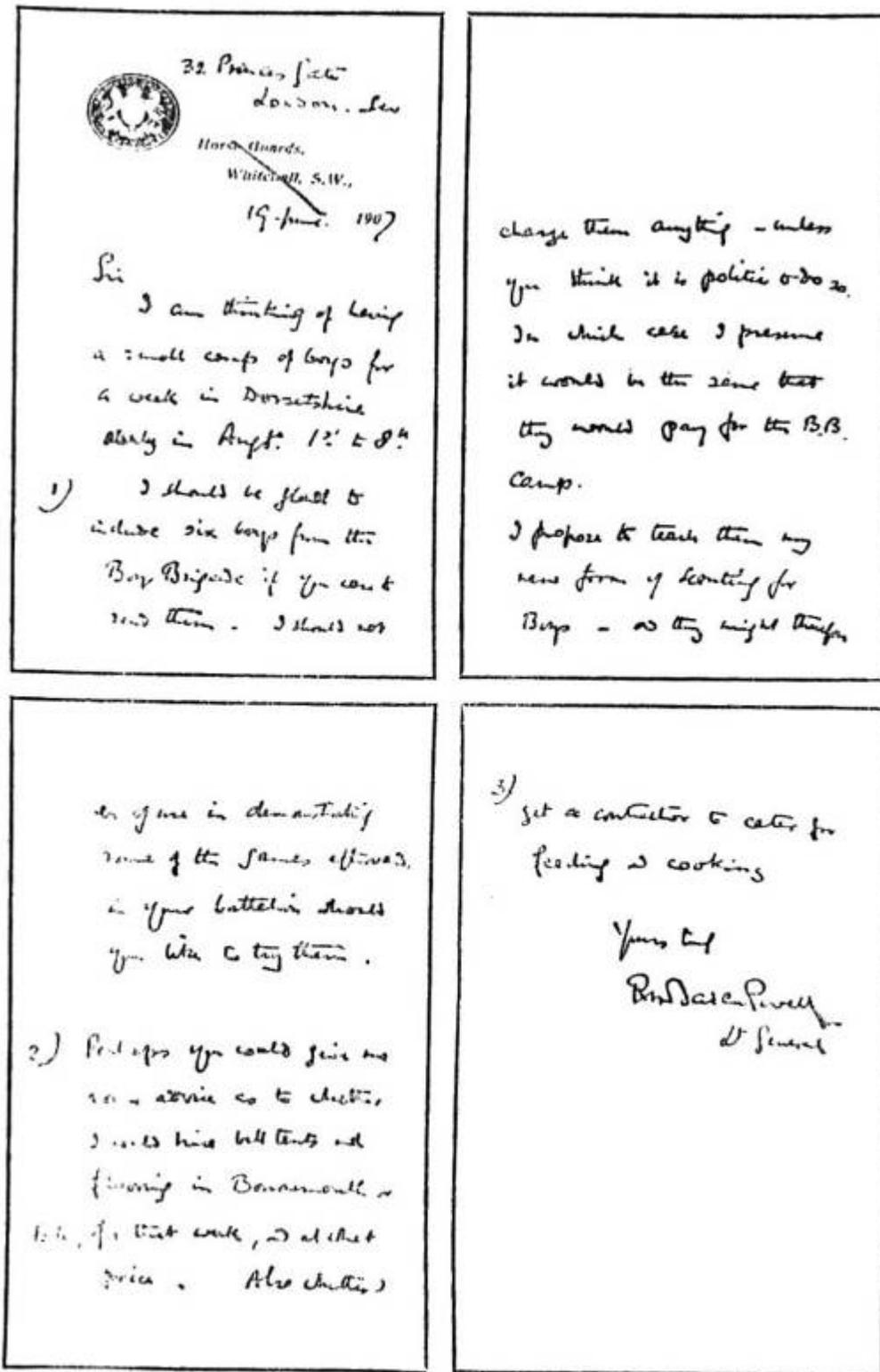
BULLS — 4. H. Emley, Patrol Leader  
B. Tarrant  
W. Rodney  
B. Collingbourne  
H. Noble

Orderly: Donald Baden-Powell  
Scoutmaster: General Baden-Powell  
Assistant: Major McLaren



A very early Enrolment Card.

Baden-Powell also received the greatest possible assistance from Mr. H. Robson, the local officer of the Boys' Brigade, who entered with enthusiasm into the Scouting scheme. To him were sent in advance all the requisitions for camp supplies and materials for work and games. Many of these requirements were, at that time, so unique that they could only be described by drawings, and the manufacture of some of them almost made Mr. Robson's hair stand on end. He realised, however, that B-P. was not a man to take "Impossible" for an answer, and everything was obtained as directed and placed in readiness for the Chief's arrival.



A reproduction of B-P.'s original letter of invitation to the Boys' Brigade to take part in the trial camp.

As this camp was purely experimental, Baden-Powell did not encourage Press publicity for it, as will be seen by the following letter which he addressed to a well-known newspaper:

SCOUTS CAMP,  
BROWNSEA ISLAND,  
POOLE,  
*4th August, 1907.*

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 1st I write to say that the camp is quite a small experimental one and in no way worth public attention as far as it goes. I certainly hope to evolve a big scheme eventually, but this is a very partial experiment and undue advertisement of it can only do harm to the whole. I hope, therefore, that you will help me by not giving it any more publicity. I should be very grateful for your kind assistance, if you would care to give it, later on when producing the scheme in its more complete form.

Yours etc.

R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL.

The Press were, however, not altogether vanquished, as I am able to quote the following report of the camp by the special correspondent of the *Daily Express*:

“Visitors to Bournemouth know well by sight the little island known as Brownsea, lying in the almost landlocked bay at the head of which is this ancient port. But the foot of the ordinary tourist is not often set on this romantic island, which is at present the happy hunting-ground of General Baden-Powell and his corps of Boy Scouts.

“The island is the property of Mr. Van Raalte, who has a lovely old castle at the seaward end, looking across to the long line of great sandhills that form the western extremity of Bournemouth.

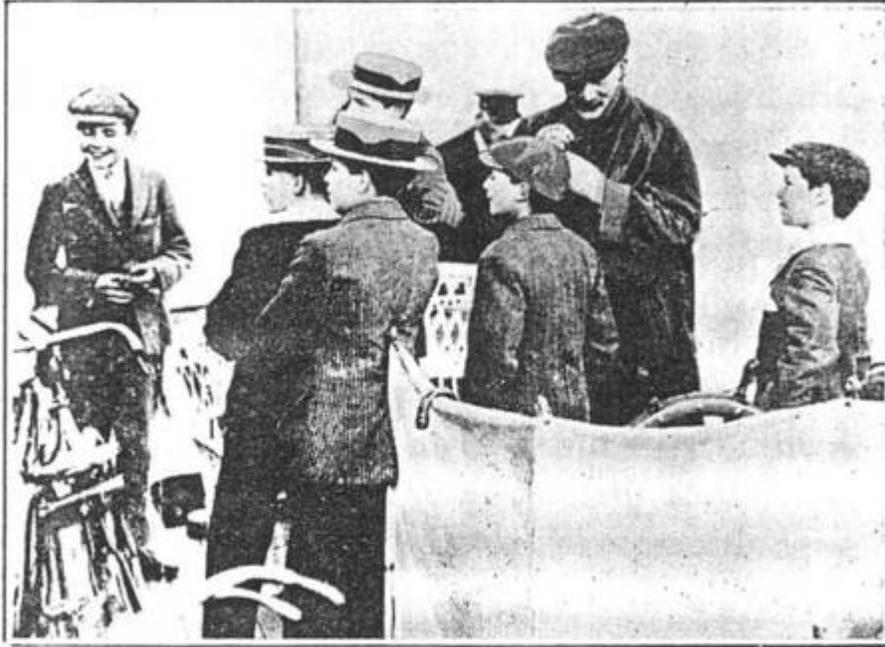
“A few cottages at the little island’s harbour, a few more at the northern end, looking across the water to Poole, and a few scattered keepers’ lodges constitute the permanent abodes on the island, which is about a mile and a half long and rather less across.

“This afternoon I ran down the bay in a motor-boat from Poole to the castle, and then I set out on foot to track the Scouts in their lair.

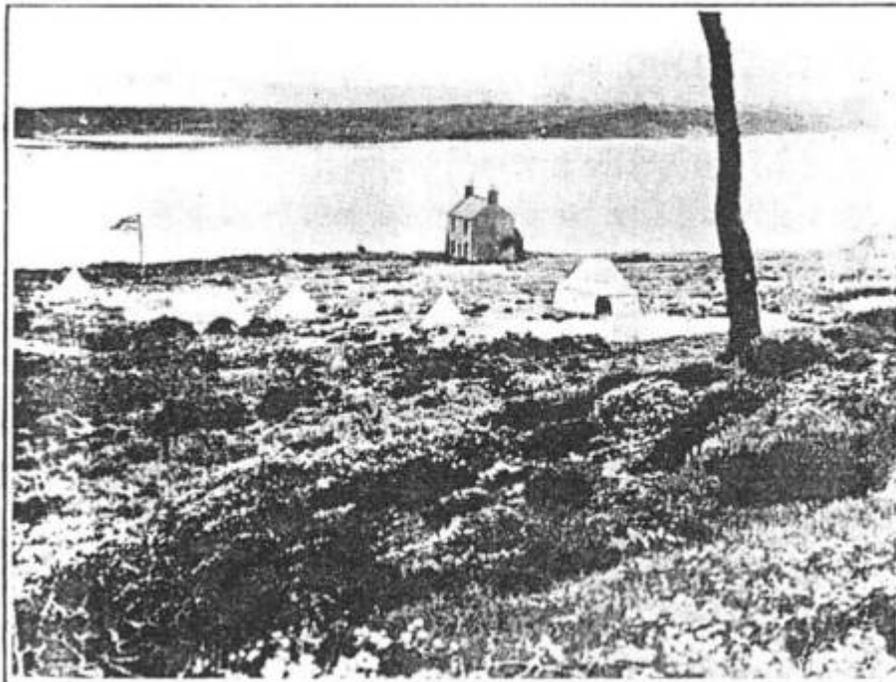
“The greater part of the island is covered with forests of pine and beech trees, with thick undergrowth and sand-tracks. The woods were so dense and the air was so still, save for the chirping of innumerable birds and the quacking of wild ducks on little meres, that I thought for a time that I had discovered ‘Treasure Island’ anew.

“At last I saw a kind of ‘Spyglass Hill’ with a few pines at the top, and when I had climbed it I saw, down by the shore below, the little all-alone camp of the Scouts. There was one large tent — the mess tent — flanked by two smaller ones. These two are the sleeping places of the General and of Major Maclaren, an old fellow-soldier who is helping him to train the Scouts.

“As I reached the little camp I spied a tall, thin man, bareheaded, with his jacket and waistcoat off, disappearing over the further hill-side. I anticipated what I heard — that it was B-P. off on the trail by himself.



B.P. WITH SOME OF THE BOYS WHO ATTENDED THE TRIAL CAMP ON BROWNSEA ISLAND, 1907



THE CAMP ON BROWNSEA ISLAND, 1907

“There were about a dozen Scouts in camp this afternoon and the rest were due to-night. There will be twenty in all. Those who had arrived were putting up their own tents under the Major’s directions, and when they had finished the job they fetched trusses of hay, on which, covered with a waterproof, they will sleep.

“Some of them are Eton and Harrow lads, some belong to boys’ brigades, but all boys are boys when General Baden-Powell has the handling of them, and there are no artificial divisions of rank. The little camp promises to be one of the most delightful memories of these youngsters, for the hero of Mafeking intends teaching them how to follow the trail, how to find a few grains of Indian corn in an acre of heather, and how to hide and discover messages in trees and under stones.

“From six in the morning until nine-thirty at night there will be Scouting, and Scouting intermixed with bathing and feeding on plain fare.

“Every night an hour will be spent round the camp fire, and the Boy Scouts will hear some of the best tales about Mafeking every told.”

Writing about this camp twenty years later, Mr. P. W. Everett says:

“No one who was present will ever forget the wonder and attraction of that first Scout camp. Twenty boys took part — drawn from all grades of Society. Eton and the East End of London lived happily together in the same Patrol, and shared equally in all the activities of camp life.

“There were four Patrols, and from morning till night, except for the compulsory rest-hour after the midday meal, the boys were engaged in Scouting games and activities, but at the same time (and here is the secret of the success of Scouting) they were quite unconsciously acquiring valuable habits of observation, deduction, manliness, fair play, and consideration for others.

“Round the camp fire at night the Chief told us thrilling yarns, himself led the Eengonyama chorus (a Zulu Impi chorus adopted by the Boy Scouts as their “War-cry”), and in his inimitable way held the attention and won the hearts of all.

“I can see him still as he stands in the flickering light of the fire — an alert figure, full of the joy of life, now grave, now gay, answering all manner of questions, imitating the call of birds, showing how to stalk a wild animal, flashing out a little story, dancing and singing round the fire, pointing a moral, not in actual words but in such an elusive and yet convincing way that everyone present, boy or man, was ready to follow him wherever he might lead.”

So a happy fortnight of camp was passed, the results of which were completely satisfactory and, in General Baden-Powell’s opinion, justified the wholesale launching of the scheme.

He therefore accepted Mr. Pearson’s offer of co-operation, and on January 1st, 1908, an agreement was made to the effect that B-P. should plan out, organise, lecture on, and write up his Scout Scheme, Mr. Pearson on his part undertaking to finance the Movement for the first year at any rate, and to launch *The Scout* newspaper, and also to provide a headquarters office from which information and instructions could go out to Scoutmasters and boys.

In thus taking upon himself a stupendous task Baden-Powell received the greatest encouragement and sympathy from his mother.

His letters to her about that time, which his mother preserved and which are still in existence, consist almost entirely of plans and ideas for his scheme, requests for advice, and for practical help in the matter of sorting and packing proofs, sketches, and books required for the great work.

The name BOY SCOUTS had been chosen for the Movement as a whole after considerable discussion of alternate titles.

Writing in September 1907, Mr. Pearson said: “I do not think the title Imperial Scouts is a good name. For one thing, I think it would get mixed in the public mind with the Imperial Legion of Frontiersmen. It

seems to me we should certainly use the word 'Boy.' I do not think you will improve upon 'Boy Scouts.'”

Addressing the Harrogate Y.M.C.A. in November 1907, B-P. used the name “Boy Scouts.” An old gentleman in the audience rose and strongly objected to the name, but as, in the discussion which followed, he could suggest nothing better, it was decided by those present to adopt it.

In the first few numbers of *The Scout* the title of LEGION OF BOY SCOUTS was used, but it was gradually simplified to THE BOY SCOUTS, until the Movement eventually became incorporated as THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION.

## CHAPTER III

(1908-1909)

### “SCOUTING FOR BOYS”

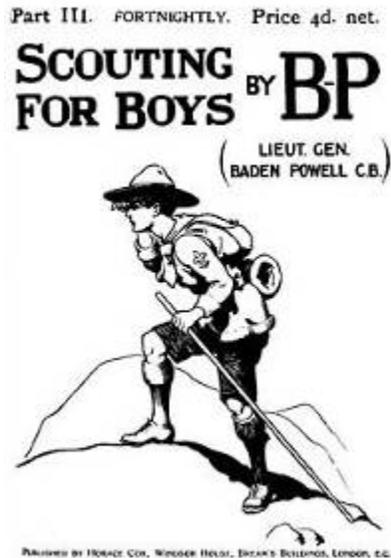
*The publication of “Scouting for Boys” — The Promise and Law — The First Troop — Wimbledon Camp — Publication of “The Scout” — Humshaugh Camp — Early organisation — “The Mercury” Camp — The Crystal Palace Rally — Religious Policy and the start of the Scouts Own — King Edward’s interest — The establishing of King’s Scouts.*

“After an experience of more than eighteen solid years of Sunday School teaching of boys, I find the book *Scouting for Boys*, after the Prayer Book, the most useful adjunct to the Bible for crystallisation of its teaching.”

A letter to the Chief from a Sunday School Teacher.

*Scouting for Boys* — Part I made its appearance in January 1908 and was eagerly bought and read by men, women, and children, but especially by the boys for whom it was intended.

The price for each part was fourpence, and they appeared fortnightly, so that it was within the reach of almost every boy. There were six parts.



The previous book, *Aids to Scouting*, and the preliminary pamphlets referred to in the foregoing chapters, as well as the explanatory addresses given by Baden-Powell in all the large towns in the kingdom, had paved the way for a good reception for the new handbook, and the sales of the first part more than justified expectations.

“Remember,” said the author, in a note for Scoutmasters, “that the boy on joining wants to begin Scouting right away, so don’t dull his keenness by too much preliminary explanation at first. Meet his wants by games and Scouting practices, and instil elementary details bit by bit afterwards as you go along.”

This method was certainly followed by the author himself, for the first part of the handbook contained everything that was needful for the boy to know who proposed to begin Scouting straight away.

It gave him as examples the stories in outline of many heroes in all walks of life, of soldiers and sailors, frontiersmen and explorers. It told him of the boys of Mafeking and how they had been trusted as men to carry out men’s duties. It introduced him to Rudyard Kipling’s “Kim,” the boy detective.

It gave him an oath which every boy was bound to take on joining the Movement:

“I promise, on my honour, to do my best  
To do my duty to God and the King.  
To help other people at all times.  
To obey the Scout Law.

The Law was based on the Code of Chivalry of the Knights of old.

1. A Scout’s Honour is to be trusted.

If a Scout says, “On my honour it is so,” that means that it *is* so, just as if he had taken a most solemn oath.

Similarly if a Scout officer says to a Scout, “I trust you on your honour to do this,” the Scout is bound to carry out the order to the very best of his ability and to let nothing interfere with his doing so.

If a Scout were to break his honour by telling a lie, or by not carrying out an order exactly when trusted on his honour to do so, he may be directed to hand over his Scout badge and never to wear it again. He may also be directed to cease to be a Scout.

2. A Scout is loyal to the King, and to his officers, and to his parents, his country, his employers or his employees, and his comrades. He must stick to them through thick and thin against anyone who is their enemy or who even talks badly of them.

3. A Scout’s duty is to be useful and to help others.

And he is to do his duty before anything else, though he gives up his own comfort or pleasure or safety to do it. When in difficulty to know which of two things to do, he must ask himself, “Which is my duty?” that is, “Which is best for other people?” — and do that one. He must Be Prepared at any time to save life or to help injured persons. AND HE MUST TRY TO DO HIS BEST TO DO AT LEAST ONE GOOD TURN TO SOMEBODY EVERY DAY.

4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout, no matter to what social class the other belongs.

Thus if a Scout meets another Scout, even though a stranger to him, he must speak to him and help him in any way that he can, either to carry out the duty he is then doing or by giving him food or, as far as possible, anything that he may be in want of. A Scout must never be a snob. A snob is one who looks down upon another because he is poorer, or who is poor and resent another because he is rich. A Scout accepts the other man as he finds him and makes the best of him.

“Kim,” the Boy Scout, was called by the Indians “Little Friend of all the world,” and that is the name that every Scout should earn for himself.

5. A Scout is courteous, that is he is polite to all, but especially to women and children, and old people and invalids, cripples, etc. And he must not take any reward for being helpful or courteous.

6. A Scout is a Friend to Animals. He should save them as far as possible from pain, and should not kill any animal unnecessarily for it is one of God’s creatures. Killing an animal for food, or an animal which is harmful, is allowable.

7. A Scout obeys orders of his parents, Patrol Leader, or Scoutmaster without question.

Even if he gets an order he does not like he must do a soldiers and sailors do, he must carry it out all the same BECAUSE IT IS HIS DUTY; and after he had done it he can come and state any reasons against it; but he must carry out the order at once. That is discipline.

8. A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties. When he gets an order he should obey it cheerily and readily, not in a slow, hang-dog sort of way.

Scouts never grouse at hardships, not whine at each other, nor swear when put out, but go on whistling and smiling.

When you just miss a train, or someone treads on your favourite corn — not that a Scout ought to have such things as corns — or under any annoying circumstances, you should force yourself to smile at once and then whistle a tune and you will be all right.

The punishment for searing or using bad language for each offence is a mug of cold water to be poured down the offender’s sleeve by the other Scouts. It was the punishment invented by the old British Scout, Captain John Smith, three hundred years ago.

9. A Scout is Thrifty. That is, he saves every penny he can and puts it into the bank, so that he may have money to keep himself when out of work, and thus not to make himself a burden to others; or that he may have money to give away to others when they need it.

To these nine laws was added another a year later to complete the Decalogue.

10. A Scout is Clean in Thought, Word and Deed, that is, he looks down upon a silly youth who talks dirt, and he does not let himself give way to temptation either to talk it or to think or do anything dirty. A Scout is pure and clean-minded and manly.

It gave him also a Salute and Secret Sign, a Badge (the Fleur-de-lis or arrowhead), and a motto — “Be Prepared.”

Above all, it gave him definite instructions in outline of the methods by which he could prepare himself, through interesting games and Scouting practices, to be a useful citizen for his country.

Part I, in fact, provided a fascinating programme of Scouting activities, based on the training which had been tried at Brownsea, and attractive enough to whet the appetite of any normal boy for more of the same kind.

There was no falling off, but rather an increase of interest in the subsequent parts which appeared fortnightly and were immediately afterwards re-published in book form.

Patrol calls and secret signs; camping and life in the open; exploration; boat cruising; mountaineering; night work; pathfinding; weather lore; practical astronomy; the use of the compass; signalling by Morse and Semaphore and smoke; despatch running; tree felling; the use of knots; bridge building and boat-making; judging heights and distances; bathing and swimming; camp cooking; observation of “sign”; deduction; tracking; sporing; woodcraft; stalking animals and birds; fishing and shooting; these, and many other activities dear to the heart of the boy but too often hitherto regarded by his elders as crimes,

were here shown to him to be not only permissible, but actually useful pursuits for him to adopt in company with a band of kindred spirits.

For proficiency in these and numerous other arts, crafts, hobbies and handwork, badges were designed and tests drawn up.

The “Badge System” as it is known, was, from the boy’s point of view, the most attractive part of the whole scheme. It has been subjected to criticism from time to time, but, rightly or wrongly, the prospect of earning a small badge to wear on his sleeve has proved a great incentive to boys in making themselves proficient in various useful directions; and who among us is above receiving recognition for good work accomplished?

Further instruction in personal hygiene and self-care, and in the mental and moral qualities desirable for a good citizen, was set forth in such a way as to make every boy keen to possess it.

Throughout the book emphasis was laid on the active doing of good rather than the passive abstention from bad; and even where it was necessary to condemn a practice the author was always careful to avoid the words “forbidden,” “must not,” or “not allowed.”

There was no rule against smoking, but “A Scout does not smoke,” wrote B-P. “Any boy can smoke; it is not such a very wonderful thing to do. But a Scout will not do it because he is not such a fool” — and so on, with numerous examples of famous men who have eschewed smoking for fear of its ill-effect on their eyesight, wind, sense of smell, and health — all of the greatest importance to Scouts.

In the same way cleanliness of body and mind, honour, loyalty, sobriety, continence, early rising, thrift, and other virtues were held out as essential attributes which it was taken for granted every Scout would wish to possess.

On the subject of religion the author emphasised these two precepts:

- 1st. To trust in God.
- 2nd. To do good to other people.

And he wrote:

“The old knights, who were the Scouts of the nation, were very religious. They were always careful to attend religious service, especially before going into battle or undertaking any serious difficulty. They considered it was the right thing always to be prepared for death. In the great Church of Malta you can see to-day where the knights used to pray, and they all stood up and drew their swords during the reading of the creed, as a sign that they were prepared to defend the Gospel with their swords and lives.

“Besides worshipping God in Church the knights always recognised His work in the things which He made, such as animals, plants, and scenery. And so it is with the peace Scouts of to-day, that wherever they go they love the woodlands, the mountains, and the prairies, and they like to watch and know about the animals that inhabit them, and the wonders of the flowers and plants.

“No man is much good unless he believes in God and obeys His laws. So every Scout should have a religion.

“There are many kinds of religions, such as Roman Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Mahommedans, and so on; but the main point about them is that they all worship God, although in different ways. They are like an army which serves one king, though it is divided into different branches, such as cavalry, artillery, and infantry, and these wear different uniforms. So, when you meet a boy of a different religion from your own you should not be hostile to him, but recognise that he is still serving the same king as you.”

I have quoted this paragraph with a purpose. The Scout Movement has often been said to be lacking in religious instruction. The Chief Scout, however, has remained loyal to the principles enunciated above. The Scout Movement has always been open to any boy, whatever his religion, who can subscribe to the first clause of the Scout Promise:

“To do my duty to God and the King.”



Instruction in different methods of life-saving in the case of accidents played an important part in *Scouting for Boys*, accompanied by instances of heroism in life-saving and, on the reverse of the medal, examples of cases in which lives had been lost through the cowardice, carelessness or ignorance of the spectators.

The book, as will be seen, covered a very wide scope, and was full of suggestion for further extension.

Before the second part was on sale Troops of Scouts had sprung up like mushrooms all over the country, and letters were pouring into the office from Scoutmasters and boys asking for further information, help, and advice.

The question as to which was actually the first Troop of Scouts to be formed — excluding, of course, the Brownsea Island Troop — is one which has often been raised in the Movement.

I should not like to say definitely that this honour belongs to any Troop, though many have claimed it.

The first Troop, however, which the Chief notes in his diary as having been inspected by himself was at Sunderland. On February 22nd, 1908, he notes in his diary: “Inspected Boy Scouts at Sunderland (Col. Vaux).”

If this Troop was ready for inspection on 22nd February one would infer that it had already been in existence for some days at any rate; and the present Scoutmaster of “Vaux’s Own” has kindly supplied the following notes based on his personal investigations:

“In February 1908 Lieut.-General Baden-Powell discussed his early dream of the formation of the Boy Scout Movement with Lieut.-Colonel Ernest Vaux, with whom he was staying at his residence at Grindon, near Sunderland.

“Colonel Vaux drew the General’s attention to work amongst boys already carried out by the Sunderland Waif’s Rescue Agency and Street Vendors’ Club and induced him to pay us a visit.

“This visit was the beginning of our Scouts in Sunderland. Members from the Sunderland Waifs’ Rescue Agency and Street Vendors’ Club at first enrolled to be ‘made into Scouts,’ under the Superintendent of this Agency, Mr. Jas. A. Smith.

“Lieut.-Colonel Vaux secured the services of Captain W. Webb and Mr. Fred Wood. These gentlemen came down every week to train the boys in Scouting. This went on with great success.

“At this time during their training it was very difficult for these poor boys to attend regularly owing to the sale of their papers, etc.

“The philanthropic mind of Colonel Vaux soon overrode this difficulty. He agreed to pay for all the returns these boys had after seven o’clock so that they could take their training. This went on under the able instructors mentioned until May, when a month’s camp was held at Grindon under the charge of Captain Pearce, who brought twelve boys from other districts.

“Our local boys were given the name of ‘Pee-wit Patrol,’ and were supplied with a uniform from Headquarters, who also paid them five shillings per week.

“The London boys were called ‘Kangaroo Patrol,’ and wore football outfits when they met at this camp. Immediately they saw the smart appearance of the ‘Peeweets’ they straightway adopted the same uniform and were fitted out from Headquarters during this month’s camp.

“Whilst this camp was in progress Major King (then Captain) was introduced to this camp, who, together with Colonel Vaux, in September, commenced the wholesale enrolment of boys at Messrs. Vaux’s Brewery, where accommodation was placed at their disposal. This was known as the Town



THREE FAMOUS SCOUTS WHO MET DURING THE CANADIAN TOUR OF 1910—COL. CODY, SCOUT CHAPMAN (SILVER WOLF), AND CHIEF IRON TAIL.



THE CHIEF SCOUT IN THE UNIFORM HE WORE ON BROWNSEA ISLAND

He is seen judging a tug-of-war contest.

Troop, and consisted of about three hundred boys. This number, it was realised, was too many to handle, and was split up into various Troops as they are now known.

“Major King resigned his Commissionership in 1925 after seventeen years, and in his retiring speech he outlined the beginning of the Scout Movement in this district, in the course of which he touched upon the Grindon camp, stating, ‘This initial and experimental camp was, in effect, the birthplace of the whole movement, a fact which Wearsiders may not generally appreciate.’ Sir Robert Baden-Powell was heartened and encouraged to proceed with the organisation, and soon after the formation of the Sunderland Scouts similar organisations sprang up all over the country. The first official Troop, pointed out Major King, in the Imperial and therefore in the Sunderland Records, is the Lambton Street Troop (Vaux’s Own).”

Another “first” Troop was the First Glasgow, which has in its possession a Registration Certificate dated 26th January, 1908, and was founded by Mr. Robert Young who, twenty-one years later, was still its leader.

In another entry in his diary the Chief mentions that on February 4th, 1908, he arranged for the starting of three Scout Troops at Nottingham — under Mr. Hemingway of the Y.M.C.A. — so the Nottingham Scouts ran the Sunderland and Glasgow ones pretty closely in the matter of “firstness.”

The Hampstead Troop, known as “The First,” was another Troop very early in the field, and they, under their Scoutmaster, Captain Colbron Pearce, took part, with the 1st S.W. London Troop, in the first inter-Troop competition to be held. This took place on Wimbledon Common in May 1908, and the programme comprised competitions in cooking, tent-pitching, fire-lighting, and tree-felling.

The Scoutmaster of the 1st Hampstead then went on tour in the provinces with his “Demonstration” Patrol, the Kangaroos. They went first to Sunderland, where they took part in the camp alluded to in the notes by the Scoutmaster of “Vaux’s Own”; later they went to Barnstaple and Westward Ho! And claim to have been the first Boy Scouts to appear in the West of England.

In March 1908 *Scouting for Boys* appeared in book form, and was very warmly received, not only by the boys, but more particularly by numbers of thinking men and women who saw value in the scheme even at that very early date.

*The Times* concluded a two-column review of the book by saying: “It is to be hoped that this new educational Movement will continue to grow in favour. All further information may be obtained by writing to Lieut.-General R.S.S. Baden-Powell at the Boy Scouts Office, Goschen Buildings, Henrietta Street, London, W.C. Boys can write there if they want to be enrolled as Scouts.”

Boys certainly did want to be enrolled as Scouts, and they lost no time in writing to General Baden-Powell in overwhelming numbers.

The Movement was well under way.

*Scouting for Boys* was followed in April 1908 by the first number of *The Scout*, a newspaper published, in accordance with their agreement, by Messrs. C. Arthur Pearson, a weekly pennyworth, within the reach of most Scouts, containing an article by the Chief, and further instruction for the carrying on of Scout work, as well as stories of adventure and heroism likely to appeal to boys.

General Baden-Powell was still travelling round the country explaining his idea, and he now found, almost wherever he went, Patrols and Troops of Scouts awaiting “inspection.”

A second Training Camp was carried out during the summer holidays of 1908, this time at Humshaugh in Northumberland. The thirty Scouts who attended this camp were selected by a system of voting from readers of *The Scout*.

The training was carried on, as at Brownsea, on Patrol lines, and included the course of instruction in the handbook.

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One who was present during the camp wrote of it: "Perhaps the feature of the camp most looked forward to is the evening camp fire. A score of boys make their way into the wood and ply their axes with such good effect that soon a huge pile of wood is placed upon a convenient spot and a light put to it. You may be sure that Scouts know how to make a fire, and in a few minutes the whole place is lighted up with the flames. It is a picturesque sight this camp fire, reminding one of an old Dutch painting. The boys are grouped around in various attitudes. The tall firs in the background stand out clear yet sombre in the fitful firelight, looking for all the world like sentinels guarding the camp.

"The General, always an interesting personality, is perhaps seen at his best at these times. I can see him now with his hands clasping his staff as he answers the many questions put to him by admiring youngsters.

" 'What star is that, sir?' says a curly-headed boy of twelve.

" 'Is that the cry of the curlew?' enquires another.

"Be sure every question is answered, and the General proves himself to be an encyclopædia of general information, and is as much at home with astronomy and natural history as he is with Scouting.

"At length the signal is given and the boys, after singing with great effect 'God save the King,' make their way to the supper tent before retiring for the night."

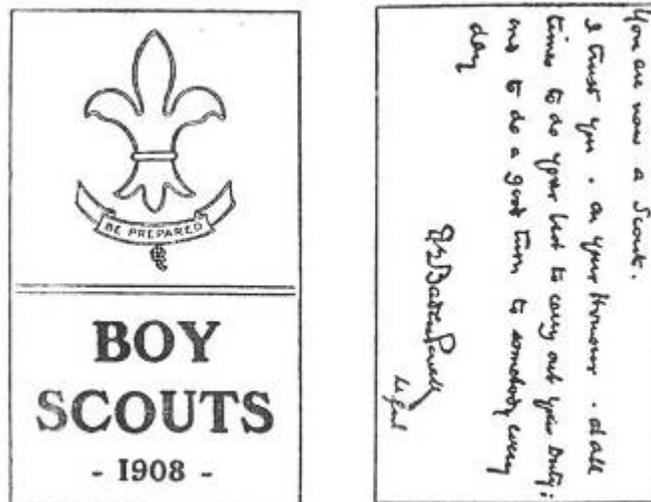
The fortnight's training at Humshaugh was carried out by B-P. himself, with the assistance of Captain Colbron Pearce, and Mr. Holt acted as quartermaster.

In September of the same year General Baden-Powell attended a Rally of some 1500 Scouts at Manchester, the largest gathering up to that date.

The need for a more definite organisation of the Movement was now becoming apparent.

Primarily intended for use by the Boys' Brigades, Y.M.C.A., etc., the scheme, while adopted wholeheartedly by such organisations, had also made its appeal to numbers of boys and young men who were unconnected with any club. A large and independent body of Scouts had spontaneously formed itself and was extending not only throughout the United Kingdom but overseas as well.

The profits from the newspaper, *The Scout*, and from the handbook, *Scouting for Boys*, together with a donation of five hundred pounds from Lord Strathcona, had been sufficient in the first instance to establish the small Headquarters office which Mr. Pearson had placed at the disposal of the Movement.



The first Registration Card.

The Headquarters Staff in those days consisted merely of Baden-Powell as Director, working in conjunction with Mr. P. W. Everett, together with a paid secretary and one lady clerk. Major MacLaren, Baden-Powell's old friend and brother-officer, was the first secretary, and he had as his assistant Miss Margaret Macdonald, who in later years became the first secretary of the Girl Guide Movement.

A supply of Scout equipment had been laid in, and Mr. Holt was appointed quartermaster to deal with this side of the work. Under his direction the twelve official Boy Scout hats, which he ordered with some trepidation, developed later into a large and paying concern, supplying uniform and every kind of Scout equipment. The profits of this department were handed back to the Movement to be used for organisation expenses.

The position of the Movement, when stock had been taken towards the end of 1908, is best gathered from the following official letter circulated from the Head Office to all who were known to have shown an interest in the scheme.

BEDFORD MANSIONS,  
33 HENRIETTA STREET,  
LONDON, W.C.  
*September 28th, 1908.*

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORGANISATION OF  
SCOUTING FOR BOYS

DEAR SIR,

As you may remember, I first promulgated the scheme of Scouting for Boys with the idea that any Boys' Leagues or Clubs who wished could adopt it as a means of providing additional wholesome attraction in their programme.

But I now find in practice that, in addition to its adoption by Leagues, young men, and even boys themselves, have started Patrols independently in all parts of the country. This, of course, is a very good sign of its being popular with them, but at the same time rather lays it open to failure or abuse.

It has been suggested to me from several quarters that these efforts should be recognised and directed locally, and in some centres the local advisory committee, composed of gentlemen representing the different boys' organisations, have taken up the organisation and the recognition of the various Patrols and Troops in the neighbourhood.

It has also been represented to me — and I fully recognise that with justice — that the want of discriminating supervision in the appointment of Scoutmasters, and in the bestowal of Scout Badges, is leading to confusion and misunderstandings.

DUTIES OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

My proposal, therefore, is to extend the system of advisory committees to every city where gentlemen will be so good as to serve upon them.

The chief duties of such committees would then be:

1. To bring into touch with themselves all Patrols and Troops of Boy Scouts in their district and register them.
2. To have in their hands the appointment of Scoutmasters and bestowal of Badges and rewards, etc.
3. To encourage the Movement generally as they find best.

In addition to these there are secondary duties which already some committees have taken up with good results, such as:

1. The allotment of districts to respective Scoutmasters as their recruiting ground.

2. The acquirement of a store of camp and games equipment for issue on temporary loan to the various Patrols and Troops as they may require them.
3. The employment of Scouts at fêtes, etc., whereby funds can be obtained.
4. The institution of an employment bureau for deserving Scouts.
5. Supervision of demonstrations, etc.

LOCAL SECRETARY

I would suggest that local committees, on taking up these duties, should forward to my Manager the name and address of the gentleman who will act as their Secretary, and be our means of mutual communication.

TRAVELLING INSPECTOR

I have appointed Mr. Eric Walker to act as Travelling Inspector, and he will be available, free of charge, to local committees for consultation, or for conducting examinations of Scoutmasters and Scouts, or for lecturing locally should they desire it.

SCOUTMASTERS

In the first place it seems desirable that Scoutmasters themselves should pass some sort of test that will guarantee their being fit and proper men to teach the lads.

With this in view, I have drawn up a short syllabus of desirable qualifications (attached).

*How would this do for Scout  
Masters Badge for the  
left side of his hat?*



*Scout's badge with circle round  
it, and a green hackle (like that which  
Pearce wears on his hat)*  
*B-P. Dave Pearce*

B-P.'s original draft for the Scoutmaster's Hat Badge.

A candidate could thus be examined in these, either by the Inspector or by three members of the Committee and be by them recommended for a certificate if considered fit. Or two certified Scoutmasters would be empowered to carry out the examination and recommend the candidate for his certificate.

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To any of these gentlemen who may be recommended by the Local Committee, or who send me a satisfactory report of what they have done as Scoutmasters, I will award certificates as Scoutmasters.

In the case of boys who may be wearing first or second-class badges, it may be necessary for them to tell the Manager under what circumstances they obtained their badges if they wish to obtain a Scout's certificate, or such certificate will be forwarded on recommendation by the Local Committee.

#### SUGGESTIONS INVITED

It is difficult to suggest any scheme that will suit all localities equally well, and I particularly desire to avoid clashing with any existing organisations for boys; I merely want to help them and, if possible, bring them into mutual touch through the common bond of Scouting, and at the same time to provide an organisation where the boys or Scoutmasters (as often happens) who desire it can be independent of existing leagues.

For these reasons, therefore, I merely offer these ideas as a basis for a solution of two or three difficult points which have arisen, and shall be very grateful for any amendments or alternative proposals that may be sent in to reach me not later than October 8th.

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your very kind co-operation in starting the scheme which already promises, with such help, to become a widespread and self-supporting agency for good among the rising generation, not only at home, but also in our colonies and abroad.

I am,

Yours very truly,

R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL.

#### TESTS FOR SCOUTMASTERS

1. A general knowledge of the handbook *Scouting for Boys*, especially the Scout Laws.
2. A full appreciation of the moral aim underlying the practical instruction all through the scheme of Scouting.
3. Personal character and standing such as will ensure his having a good moral influence over boys, and sufficient steadfastness of purpose to carry the venture over difficult and slack times.
4. Age not less than 18.
5. Ability to provide a clubroom of some sort for Scout meetings.

In a Memorandum headed "BOY SCOUTS," issued about a month later (in October 1908), Baden-Powell wrote:

"The development of the scheme of Boy Scouts has assumed very large proportions and has gone beyond what had been expected in its first initiation six months ago. It was started with the idea that its chief points might form useful additions to the present attractions or training held out to boys by the different organisations, such as Boys' Brigades, Y.M.C.A., Boys' Clubs, etc., but it has been found in practice that a large number of lads have preferred to band themselves together as Scouts, independent of existing organisations.

"In consequence of this the executive now proposes to extend a system which has already obtained in several large centres, by forming a Boy Scouts Committee in each large town. This Committee would take cognisance of all Patrols and Troops within its district; it would appoint Scoutmasters and award badges of classification to Scouts; would make arrangements for camps and parades, etc., and generally help in the matter of establishing clubs and fitting out the boys with equipment.

"Two Travelling Inspectors have been appointed by the central executive, whose business it is to visit, free of charge, any centre requiring their services, to give advice and suggestions, to conduct tests, and

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generally to regulate administration on a recognised standard. This, it is hoped, will introduce method and system through the numerous branches which are now spreading over Great Britain.

“These inspectors are Mr. W. B. Wakefield and Mr. Eric Walker, for the North and South of England respectively.

“Progress of the Movement is everywhere evident, and in each of the colonies branches are already being established, with the prospect of further development. The scheme has also been taken up in Germany by a strong committee of eminent representative men whose delegate has already visited London with a view to taking up all information on the subject. The handbook has already been translated into Russian and Norwegian.

“It has therefore become necessary to establish some kind of system in the conduct of the organisation, and it is hoped that the proposed method of decentralising administration into the hands of local committees will have the desired effect and will establish a practical means for doing useful work.”

The above Memorandum is important as it contains B-P.’s first insistence on his principle of decentralisation. This was the basis of his organisation from the very earliest days of Scouting, and one may safely say that no other method could have kept pace with the phenomenal growth of the Movement and attained to such rapid success.

The chart reproduced opposite illustrates this principle which has been adhered to throughout.

Over and over again, in the past twenty-one years, people have marvelled that one man could control so vast an organisation. The answer to the riddle is, and always has been, in one word DECENTRALISATION.

The magic of a name had called the Scout Movement into being; but it required something more than a name to organise it. It required the brain and the faith of a man who had gone, from the successful adjutancy of his regiment, to raise, equip and command native levies in the field, and who, to say nothing of the organisation of the Mafeking Defence, had in the space of seven months raised, in the South African Constabulary, a force of ten thousand picked men, able to ride and shoot, organised in “Patrols” of six under a senior constable, and posted in different parts of the country to keep the peace and to reinstate the farmers and their families on the land.

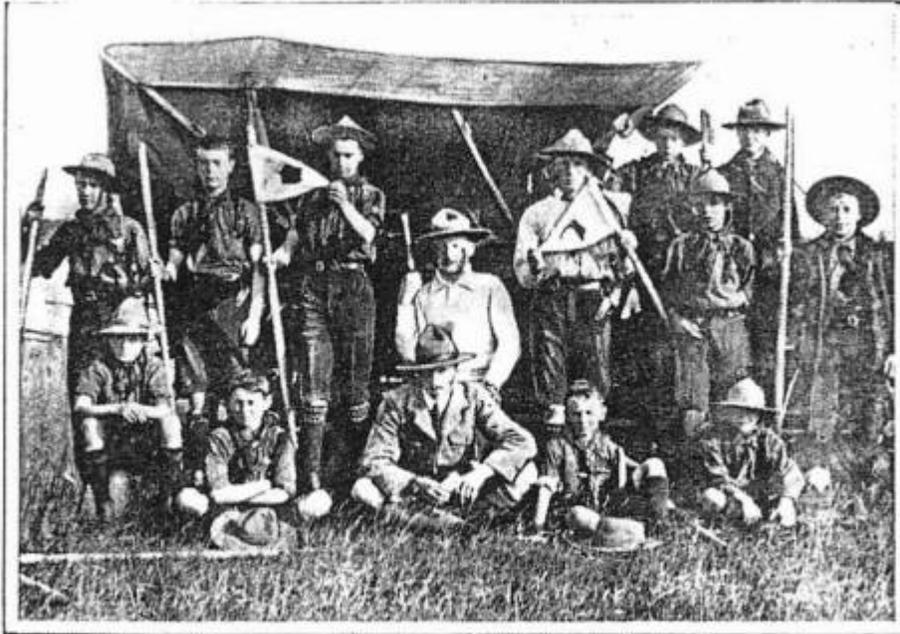
The principles of decentralisation and delegation of responsibility which were thus applied with conspicuous success in the South African Constabulary have proved no less effective in controlling the biggest and most world-wide organisation for youth that the world has yet seen.

In 1909 an Advisory Council was formed, consisting of men eminent in the various departments of life — statesmen, educationists, representatives of the Services, public schools, and of every religious sect.

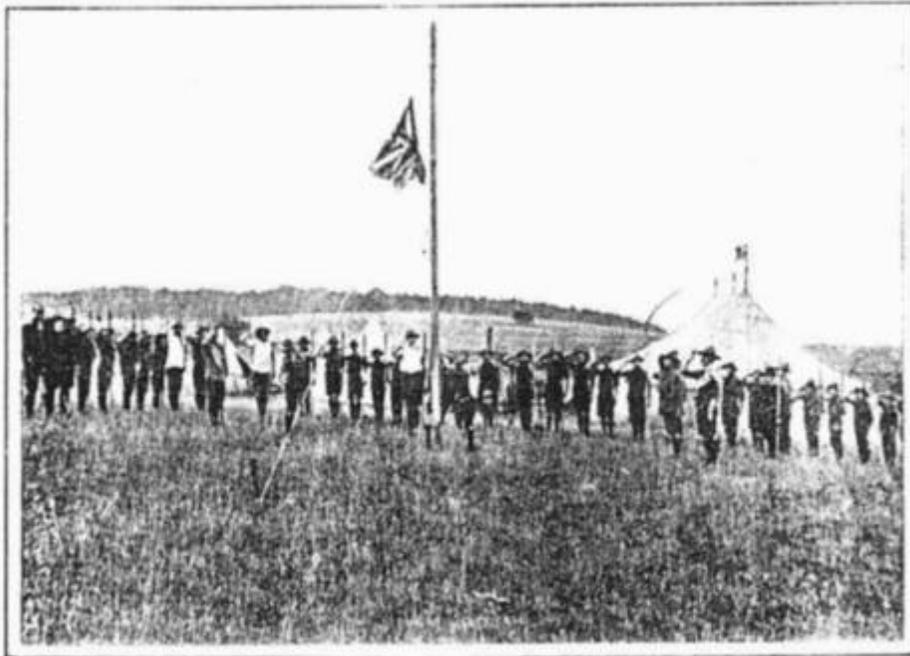
The first members of the Advisory Council were:

EDUCATION AND RELIGION

The Archbishop of Westminster	R. C. Boys’ Brigade
H. Geoffrey Elwes	C.E. Men’s Society
Sir John Kirk	Ragged Boys’ Union
The Bishop of Ripon	Physical Education
Rev. Silvester Horne, M.P.	
Rev. Hon. E. Lyttelton	Public Schools
Sir Frederick Nathan	Jewish Boys’ Brigade
Rev. W. Perkins	Wesleyan Methodists
Rev. W. H. G. Twining	
Sir Matthew Dodsworth	Y.M.C.A. Boys
Rev. W. Dale	Presbyterian
Sir T. Lauder Brunton	Physical Education



THE CHIEF WITH SOME OF THE SCOUTS AT THE HUMSHAUGH CAMP



SALUTING THE FLAG AT THE HUMSHAUGH CAMP IN 1908  
The flag is that which flew over Mafeking.

SERVICE OF THE STATE

Lord Rosebery, Field-Marshal Earl Roberts, Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, Viscount Esher, The Lord Mayor of London.

COLONIES

Earl of Meath	Empire
Earl Grey	Empire
Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal	Canada
Sir George Reid	Australasia
Sir Percy FitzPatrick	South Africa

The Headquarters Executive Committee consisted of:

Sir Robert Baden-Powell	Chairman
Sir Herbert Plumer	Vice-Chairman

*Departments*

Sir Edmond R. Elles	Commissioners
Rev. W. H. G. Twining	Education
Francis W. Pixley, Esq.	Finance
C. C. Branch, Esq.	Legal
Colonel H. S. Brownrigg	Colonies
P. W. Everett, Esq.	Literature
Colonel Ulick de Burgh	Administration
Sir Ronald Lane	
H. Geoffrey Elwes, Esq.	

Sir Edmond Elles became Chief Commissioner, an office which he held until 1922; and Colonel Ulick de Burgh was appointed Deputy Chief Commissioner in charge of Headquarters office.

Mr. J. A. Kyle succeeded Major MacLaren as Secretary, or "Manager," and Eric Walker and Colborne Pearce became Organising Commissioners.

Each county had its own County Commissioner, appointed by the Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner, to represent the Chief Scout in the county, and also to represent the needs and suggestions of the county to Headquarters.

The County Commissioner in his turn nominated District Commissioners to assist him in the different civic divisions of the county and to communicate with him (as representing Headquarters) on matters of local import.

Scoutmasters, in their turn, were encouraged to refer their troubles or their wishes to their own Commissioner, who, being on the spot, was usually able, more effectively than anybody else, to deal with local matters, and only questions which were incapable of being dealt with locally were referred to the County Commissioner for settlement and, if necessary, through him to Headquarters. The officials in each county formed a County Scout Council to deal with all matters within their area.

In this way correspondence with Headquarters was reduced to the minimum and the principle of decentralisation preserved, while at the same time every individual Scout or isolated Troop was within immediate accessibility.

The Chief Scout's right-hand man at this time was Sir Edmond Elles, a proved administrator and a firm believer in the decentralisation principle.

The framework of organisation was made so elastic that it was able to deal with the totally unexpected numbers without bending under the strain.

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The accompanying chart showing the proposed organisation for the Head Office and of finances for 1909 is interesting as being drawn up in the Chief Scout's own handwriting, and proving that there was nothing "figure-head" about him.

Boy Scouts		
Organization of Head Office		Cost
<u>President</u>	U. S. Baden Powell	
<u>Vice Presidents</u>	{	For Secretary Postage etc } £ 100
<p><u>Duties:</u> To direct the policy of the movement: and to settle all important questions, without a change of office.</p> <p><u>Staff:</u> avoid life-saving medals: sign warrants: direct the work of Inspectors: deal with Press, heads of other organizations and Colonial branches.</p>		
<u>Chief Secretary</u>		£ 300
<p><u>Duties:</u> To manage the office: direct and settle matters of minor routine: appointments, pay staff: Act in concert with Inspectors, Mess. Peasants representatives on the 'Scout' at, <sup>representatives</sup> of Y.M.C.A. B.B. U.S. Colonial branches etc.</p>		
<u>Assistant Secretary:</u>		£ 160
<p><u>Duties:</u> To conduct correspondence &amp; registration and act generally as right hand to Chief Secretary</p>		
<u>Accountant:</u>		£ 160
<p><u>Duties:</u> To keep accounts of Office Expenditure &amp; receipts: also of equipment and keep account of its receipts and issues. and generally to assist the Chief Secretary. Counter sign all cheques</p> <p>[If the equipment sales develop an extra secretary &amp; clerk will be needed, who, with their office expenses, will have been paid for out of the profits of this branch].</p>		
<u>Travelling Inspectors:</u>	Two (Three if we can afford them.)	£ 320
	at £ 160	
<p><u>Duties:</u> To visit districts to organize local committees and branches: &amp; to advise &amp; help existing branches, give lectures, to report &amp; make suggestions to President. Under direction of President, in communication with Chief Secretary.</p>		
<u>Head Clerks</u> at £ 100	} 1/2K out Secretary	} Accountant's Clerk at £ 70 } Messenger at £ 30 } can't say £ 100
<u>Assistant Clerks</u> at £ 70		
£ 250		

A page of the Chief Scout's original draft of Headquarters Organisation. This draft gives details of probable expenditure for staff, furniture and office.

The balance sheet shows how carefully every detail had been planned out, for the estimate of expenditure was within a very few pounds of being correct, the equipment items cancelling out each other.

The County Scout Councils and Local Associations were financed locally, their funds being obtained by subscriptions from local supporters or, more especially, by work on the part of the boys in organising concerts, displays, etc. Begging was considered against the spirit of the Scout Movement, and the boys were urged and shown how to earn money and to make their Troops independent. Headquarters have never asked for any contributions from the branches nor have the branches been financed by Headquarters, except in the very occasional case of a Troop too poor to make a start receiving a small grant from the "Poor Troops Fund."

While this overhead organisation had been going on to meet it, the spread of the Movement was proceeding with the greatest rapidity. Every day new Troops and Patrols were registering themselves and the handbook *Scouting for Boys* was having a record sale.

To carry out the work adequately a larger Headquarters had become necessary, where the Equipment Department as well as the organising staff could be housed, and a move was accordingly made to 116 Victoria Street early in 1909.

That summer — August 7th to August 21st — another big camp was held by B-P., with the co-operation of Mr. C. B. Fry, who placed at the disposal of the Movement his Training Ship *The Mercury*.

The camp was held partly on this ship, where the Scouts were accommodated in hammocks, and partly on Lord Montagu of Beaulieu's land in the historic village of Buckler's Hard, Hampshire. This camp was actually on the site of the ancient slipways from which were launched many of Nelson's boats.

Two Troops of Scouts were present, and these took part alternately at Land and Sea Scouting.

This was the beginning of a definite "Sea Scout" branch of the Movement, a departure which proved acceptable to many adventurous lads who might otherwise not have been attracted to Scouting.

This particular camp was also responsible for bringing into the Scout Brotherhood Mr. H. Geoffrey Elwes, who did such valuable work for the Movement in its pioneer days, more particularly in his capacity as Editor of the official *Headquarters Gazette* (now *The Scouter*).

Uncle Elwes, as he was later known throughout the Movement, was at that time an experienced worker for boys' clubs and a leader in the C.E.M.S. and Boys' Brigade work.

He came to the Scout Camp by special invitation of the Chief Scout and with the personal authority of the Archbishop of York, who was anxious to know more of the Movement with a view to its receiving the support of the Church of England Men's Society, an organisation which was at that time investigating different methods of helping its younger members.

After spending a fortnight in camp, sharing in Land and Sea Scouting, in the games, work, flag raids and bathing parties, camp fires and sing-songs of the boys, Mr. Elwes summed up his impressions with the following words:

"Firstly, I was struck with the fact that the men who are taking up Scouting are rather a different class from those who usually undertake religious work among boys. I know comparisons are odious, and there are, of course, exceptions to every rule, but it seems to me that on the whole the new Scoutmasters are a more healthy, manly, and thorough sort than those I have usually met in the Boys' Brigades or similar work, and that they certainly devote far more time and energy to the work among the boys in camp than I have seen done in other camps.

"Secondly, the absence of almost all religious forms and ceremonies. It is true there was ten minutes' service on Sunday, but there were no daily prayers or grace at meals in camp. This seemed to me a great pity, for simple camp prayers round the flagstaff in the morning or the camp fire in the evening, if properly conducted, are a very helpful and impressive part of the day's programme. It is impossible, of course, in a camp made up of boys and officers of various denominations to have any set form of service

or anything in the nature of elaborate worship, but I feel rather strongly that as 'loyalty to God' is the first obligation of the Scouts' oath, this should be brought before the Scout every day in the same way as he is reminded of loyalty to the King by the hoisting and saluting of the flag.

"Thirdly. The extraordinarily happy, friendly, and unselfish spirit among the boys. One boy had a poisoned foot and it had to be cut. It was a painful operation, and the poor kiddy cried quietly a good deal while it was being done, but afterwards, though he could only hop about on one leg, he declared camp was a glorious place, and he did not want at all to go home when camp was ended. Then everyone was so friendly. I do not think I ever made friends with so many boys so quickly before. They were all so keen on Scouting and so eager, if you gave them an opportunity, to tell you about their own Troops or Patrols, that there was always something interesting to talk about, and I believe many of us were genuinely sorry to part.

"Then I fancy that the obligation of 'one good turn every day' is having a really wonderful effect among the boys. There is no talk or parade about it, but just quietly every boy seems to be on the look out for helping someone else. In camps in days gone by (not Scouting camps) I have known it quite difficult to get odd jobs done without an actual order, or at any rate a small reward. My last experience is that if I wanted anything done in camp there were two or three volunteers at once. In fact, I had two self-appointed orderlies for whom it was difficult to find enough work; and when I offered them some small reward at the end of the week they were quite hurt. Another instance of this uncommon spirit of working without desiring a reward rather struck me. I wanted my cycle sent home by train after I had left by motor-car for *The Mercury*. The station was five and a half miles off. I asked a boy of about fourteen (not overly wealthy, I fancy) to ride it to the station for me, and suggested he might get a lift back in some farmer's cart part of the way, and I gave him a shilling to remunerate anyone who gave him a lift. I knew he would not accept any payment, but I thought he might decide to walk the five and a half miles and thereby keep the shilling. When we next met on *The Mercury* he told me he had borrowed another boy's cycle and had pushed mine to the station and ridden home, and, therefore, had not used the shilling, which he returned and which he refused to keep. I think in this age of 'Get all you can and do not do anything unless you get paid for it' this spirit of doing good turns without reward distinctly refreshing.

"Fourthly. After watching and taking part in work of various kinds for boys during the last thirteen years, I have not seen any scheme which seems to hold our, if properly worked, such wonderful possibilities for influencing boys' characters in the right direction, and at the same time training them to be useful members of society, as this scheme of Scouting for boys."

From that day onwards Mr. Elwes was an ardent Scout, and shortly afterwards joined the Committee and Council of the Movement and became Editor of the *Headquarters Gazette*.

Another outstanding event of the year 1909 was the first Scout Rally and Conference held at the Crystal Palace on the 4th September.

Reports from different parts of the country, as well as from those colonies which had taken up the training, showed that Scouting had a firm hold on the boys, and the suggestion of a big Rally was enthusiastically received.

The object of the gathering, as stated in the *Headquarters Gazette*, was "To demonstrate to the public the aims and progress of the Movement, and its stupendous growth since its initiation in the summer of 1907."

A programme was drawn up of competition in bridge-building, tent-pitching, signalling, life-saving, camp-craft, cooking, ambulance, drill, and other Scout subjects. These competitions were worked out in the districts, and the final heats took place before an enthusiastic public at the Crystal Palace.

Prizes for the various competitions were presented by well-wishers of the Movement. One of these, a field-gun, presented by Sir H. Mackworth Praed to the Troop which was adjudged smartest in appearance

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and drill, has since been a useful weapon, figuratively, to anti-militarists in their frequent attacks upon the Scout Movement as having been designed to turn boys into soldiers.

Like the fish which increases in size with each telling,

“Lord suffer me to catch a fish so large that even I  
In speaking of it afterwards shall have no need to lie,”

this modest little field-gun, scarcely more than a toy, lost nothing in size in the telling of the tale. It became, in fact, when directed against the Movement, vast batteries of artillery placed by Generals and Colonels, who ought to know better, at the disposal of innocent boys for the purpose of turning them into soldiers.

That soldiering was not B-P.'s ambition for the boys any more than was sailing, tinkering, tailoring, or any other line of life, was manifest from the beginning to all who knew him or had studied the Scouting Scheme; but the field-gun has nevertheless continued to grow in the eyes of the unscrupulous critic and will probably do so as long as there are fish to be caught.

A Conference of Officers in the Movement was held at the Crystal Palace on the same day as the Rally, when questions affecting the Movement generally, and more specifically its religious aspect, were discussed.

A general feeling had been expressed that, since Scouting was now a Movement and not merely an additional attraction for the Churches and Brigades to use, some definite statement should be made by Headquarters regarding the religious policy.

Mr. Elwes was specially invited to address the Conference on this subject of Religious Observances. He said that the subject was one of the greatest importance for Scouts at that moment — probably the most important subject that confronted them, and he believed the permanent success of the Movement depended to a very large extent on their adopting the right attitude at that time.

After some discussion the following resolutions were passed:

1. That the attention of all Scoutmasters be called to the first obligation of the Scout Oath, namely, “Loyalty to God,” and that they be requested to consider the best means of keeping this obligation prominently before the notice of their Troops.
2. That the leading representatives of the various denominations should be invited to a Conference to discuss methods by which a common and practical religious ideal should be imparted to the Movement.

In closing that part of the Conference, General Baden-Powell said, “A very big item, and one of immense importance, has been under discussion. The day would have been a notable one if there had been nothing else decided at the Conference.”

Mr. Elwes's address was subsequently published in full in the *Headquarters Gazette* for October 1909, and afterwards issued as a Headquarters pamphlet on “The Scout Movement and Religious Observances.”

Though slightly out of place chronologically, it may be well to incorporate here the religious policy which was subsequently drawn up and approved by the heads of all the various denominations, and which thereafter remained the policy of the Boy Scout Movement, and was incorporated in the Rules:

1. It is expected that every Scout shall belong to some religious denomination and attend its services.
  2. Where a Troop is composed of members of one particular form of religion, it is hoped that the Scoutmaster will arrange such denominational religious observances and instruction as he, in consultation with its Chaplain, or other religious authority, may consider best.
  3. Where a Troop consists of Scouts of various religions, they should be encouraged to attend the services of their own denominations, and Troop Church Parades should not be held. In camp any form of daily prayer and of weekly Divine Services should be of the simplest character, attendance being voluntary.
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The following definition of a "Scout's Own," of which Mr. Elwes also spoke at the Conference above referred to, was later also incorporated in the Rules, namely:

"Scouts' Own." A gathering of Scouts for the worship of God and to promote fuller realisation of the Scout Law and Promise, but supplemental to and not in substitution for the religious observances referred to in Rule 3.



The Crystal Palace Rally of September 4th was a great success from the point of view of its promoters.

In addition to Scouts from every part of the United Kingdom, there were also present a Troop of German "Vogel Wanderers" who had been making a tour through England and receiving the hospitality of the British Scouts.

It was a most enthusiastic gathering, and B-P. was more than gratified with the number and enthusiasm of the Troops which attended and the standard of proficiency which they showed in their work.

King Edward VII sent a message which was read out to the assembled boys:

"The King is glad to know that the Boy Scouts are holding their First Annual Parade. Please assure the boys that the King takes the greatest interest in them, and tell them that if he should call upon them later in life, the sense of patriotic responsibility and happy discipline which they are now acquiring as boys will enable them to do their duty as men, should any danger threaten the Empire."

The Crystal Palace Rally was followed shortly afterwards by a big Rally of Scottish Scouts when nearly six thousand lads wearing the kilt and the Scout hat were on parade and were inspected by the Chief Scout and Sir William Smith, founder of the Boys' Brigade, who had been one of the earliest to take an interest in the Scout scheme, though he was never actually a member of the Council.

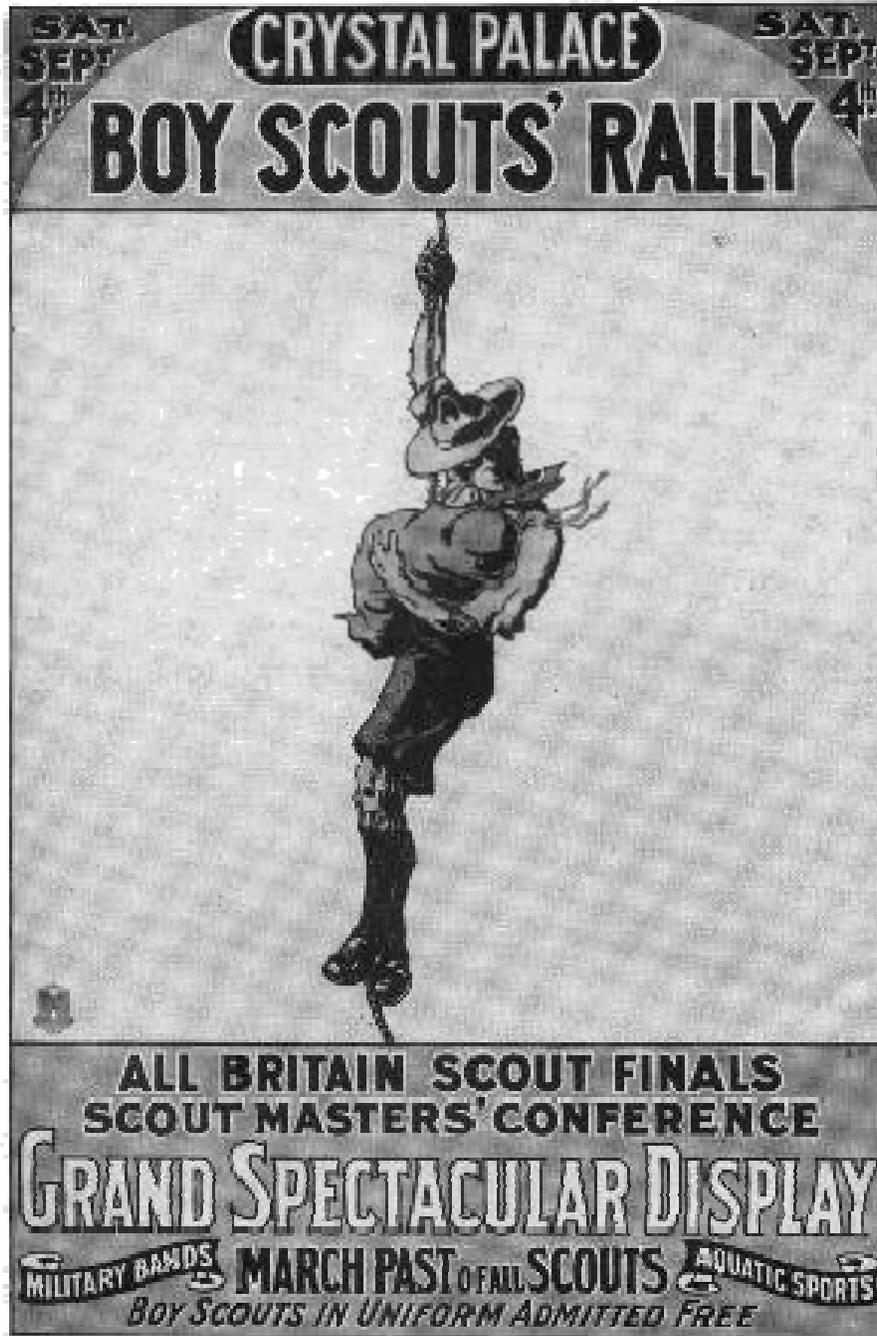
The year had altogether been one of the greatest progress and encouragement; and the crowning event, from the point of view of the Movement generally, came with the conferring of the honours of K.C.V.O. and K.C.B. on the Chief Scout.

The Movement rejoiced to a man, and no fewer than five hundred Troops and individual Scouts wrote or wired their congratulations to their Chief.

King Edward had been one of the first people to see value in Scouting, and during 1909 he had already given two very tangible proofs of his belief in it.

He had approved the institution of "King's Scouts," i.e. those First-Class Scouts who qualified in certain special subjects; and he had further commanded a Parade of Scouts to appear before him during the following summer in Windsor Great Park.

Unfortunately he died before his wish could be put in effect, and by his death the Scout Movement lost a real friend and supporter.



A REPRODUCTION OF THE CHIEF SCOUT'S POSTER DESIGN USED TO ADVERTISE THE CRYSTAL PALACE RALLY IN 1906

## CHAPTER IV

1910-1911

*The first census — The inauguration of the Sea Scout branch at Buckler's Hard — The bogey of Militarism — The issue of Regulations — Uniforms — King George V becomes patron — An appeal for funds fathered by the "Daily Telegraph" — The visit to Canada — How Scouting was started in America — The Windsor Rally.*

"Scouting is putting new ideals and a new religion into the boys of Canada."

—Letter from Lord Grey, 1911.

THE spirit and numbers present at the Crystal Palace Rally proved that, for better or worse, the Boy Scout Movement had come to stay.

The next two years were devoted mainly to the building up and consolidating of the vast framework of organisation which had become necessary to meet the astounding growth of the Movement.

A census taken in 1910 showed that the Scouts in the United Kingdom alone numbered nearly 109,000, while in other parts of the Empire the Movement had been taken up with equal enthusiasm.

Looking round on his handiwork, and realising the possibilities of the scheme, General Baden-Powell decided that the time had come for him to retire from the Army and devote his whole time to its promotion. It was a big decision and, once taken, he wasted no time in regrets but went to work with energy on his self-imposed task.

Under the guidance of Sir Edmond Elles, the Commissioners' Department had made rapid strides.

Hertfordshire, which had been organised by Mr. P. W. Everett, one of the first County Commissioners, on the Chief Scout's principle of "decentralisation and the delegation of responsibility," now became a model for other English counties, most of which were not long in setting their houses in order.

The Chief Scout, Colonel de Burgh, and others of the Headquarters Staff, carried out extensive tours of inspection, giving approbation and encouragement here, advice and suggestion there, and ensuring that basic principles were adhered to, while encouraging as much elasticity in detail as possible.

In 1910 the Sea Scout Branch of the Movement, inaugurated at Buckler's Hard the previous year, came into prominence as part and parcel of the Boy Scout training.

The Chief Scout's heart was with the Sea Scouts from the beginning, for Sea Scouting took him back to his own boyhood, as will be seen in the following notes, which he wrote later on for the boys:

"How I became a Sea Scout. Well, it was this way:

"There were five of us brothers and between us we owned a ten-ton cutter. Of course, she was the finest boat the world had ever seen, at least that was what we thought of her, and she really wasn't a bad boat either. Her performances proved it; we tried her pretty high in different ways, fishing in spring, cruising in summer, racing in autumn, wild-fowling in winter.

"We were at it whenever we could get a holiday, at any time of the year, anywhere round the coast of England.

"And the old boat proved itself useful in every line.

"The eldest brother, W., had been a sailor, so he knew all about the navigation of a ship and we others picked up our knowledge from him. But we learnt not only navigation and boat handling, but all about bending the sails, rigging and painting the ship, deck-scrubbing, cleaning and carpentering, etc., and then, of course, we all had to be able to cook, just as we had to be able to swim.

“Yes, and we were — excepting me — pretty useful at swimming. I remember when getting up anchor in Haslar Creek one day the fluke caught in a mooring chain at the bottom.

“What was the remedy?

“Hire a diver and apparatus to go down and clear it? We could not afford the money.

“Cut the cable and lose the anchor? Couldn’t afford that either.

“So the brothers stripped and went over the side, climbed down the cable, were a long time under water, popped up like seals for a suck-in of fresh air and sank down again.

“This went on time after time. But at last they all bobbed up grinning serenely.

“All clear!

“My job meantime had been to prepare hot cocoa and hot rough towels for all, and very soon we were cheerily under way and none the worse.

“Yes! Portsmouth Harbour with its Haslar and other creeks was a very favourite haunt of ours. How we played the ass at 8 o’clock flag raising and at sunset Retreat sounding!

“When the men-o’-war bugles called we blew our foghorn and went through our imitation performance of their more stately ceremonial.

“What a delight it was to the neighbouring bluejackets when we ‘piped the side’ to receive our skipper W. when he came alongside from a trip ashore to buy fresh eggs and cabbages.

“What sport we had, too, with the mullet there. These are fine big fish, jolly good to eat, but very shy, almost impossible to catch. We used to get them by going in the dinghy with a long three-pronged spear; we would hook on under the stern-post of one of the old hulks that lay up in the harbour and watch for the mullet feeding along their bottoms.

“When a silvery side came glancing through the weeds, a quick steady jab of a spear brought us in a fine fat fish for breakfast.

“Then what a glorious sea-fishing we had.

“I can recall great days with the bass and whiting off Portland and with mackerel on a rod and line as we sailed slowly, with foresail aback, off the Farne Islands.

“There, too, we had times with the wild duck; also in the South we never crossed Christchurch Bay without seeing some strange kind of wild-fowl. I don’t know why they should haunt that special bit of water, but possibly the curator of that splendid bird museum at Christchurch (Hampshire) could tell you.

“Anyhow, we used to do a lot of sailing up to wild-fowl there, and mighty cold work it was lying in the down-draught of the foresail with your nose peaking over the bits and your gun ready to get them on the rise.

“In Southampton Water, too, I spent many a happy day out on the mud-flats stalking, mud-pattens on boards strapped on to my feet to prevent sinking into the ooze, and creeping along the hollow water channels to points where one had previously spotted the wild-duck, plover or curlew.

“That was some Scouting!”

So much then for the romantic side of Sea Scouting — its attractions from the boy’s point of view, which was the main consideration.

Now for the policy laid down by Headquarters in regard to the institution of Sea Scouts.

“The idea of Sea Scouts,” said the official Scout Gazette in 1910, “is to sound the call of the sea in the ears of boys of our cities and seaports, and to give them an elementary training which may be useful, whether in starting them on a seaman’s career or in making them handy men for any branch of life.

“To put what the boys recognise as a tangible aim to the training it is desirable to give them public duties to perform (as we do in the case of Fire Brigade Troops, Ambulance Troops, and so on).

“In this case they can be formed into Coast-watching Troops for watching coasts, reporting vessels, life-saving, etc., as below. This trains them for the sea, but without boring them with drill and leaving shipboard life and routine still to come as a novelty, a point which is rather lost sight of in a training-ship education.

“The method is to form a Troop of from thirty to fifty boys in Patrols of eight, each under its Leader, on similar lines to all Troops of Boy Scouts. They would have for their Club some old hulk fitted up as a ‘Guardship’ and moored in the harbour or river where they can meet every evening and for week-ends. The guardship would have a complement of boats. Preferably several of these boats would be of the same pattern for competitions, etc., and capable of being manned each by a Patrol, i.e. with four oarsmen, one bowman and one coxswain. The uniform is the same as for other Boy Scouts, except that a naval cap is worn.

“The instruction includes boat management, singlehanded and as crew, steering, elementary navigation by chart and leading marks, a general knowledge of compass, stars and tides, steam and hydraulic winches, knotting and splicing, throwing a line, sounding, etc. Also swimming and life-saving in the water, fire-drill, ability to climb a rope or spar, and mending and making clothes.

“Development of character and discipline by the usual Boy Scout methods (not merely by the out-of-date system of drilling). Also the duties of members of a ship’s company, other than seamen, such as mechanics, clerks, engineers, electricians, carpenters, smiths, sick-bay orderlies, cooks, signallers, buglers, etc., which can be taught through the ordinary tests for Efficiency Badges. Practice can be obtained through cruises on sea, river or canals.

“Coastguard Troops can be trained and practised at the work of watching the coast for vessels in distress in bad weather, or for enemies in time of war, and reporting the same by their own field or wireless telegraph or signalling, etc. Also, when possible, in the use of rocket apparatus for life-saving. To assist lifeboatmen and coastguards at wrecks, in beach duties, in holding back crowds, in launching lifeboats, rendering first-aid, salving goods, etc.”

(The final paragraph of the above scheme is specially significant in the light of what actually happened four years later when the Sea Scouts were called upon to carry out in all seriousness the duties of coastguardsmen from John o’ Groats to Land’s End.)

In the organization of the Sea Scout branch the Chief Scout received great assistance from his elder brother, Mr. Warrington Baden-Powell, K.C. (the “W.” of the anecdote on p. 48).

Commenting on the scheme of Sea Scouts in 1910, a newspaper pointed out that “The project of Sea Scouting will be on lines similar to the land organisation, and it must not summarily be concluded that the organisation wishes to look upon the Sea Boy Scouts as the antennæ of the Navy. The leaders of the Movement have repudiated this allegation. If boys, trained in accordance with the Scouting code, elect to join the Army or to devote themselves to active participation in the Territorial Force, that is a matter for the exercise of individual inclination. And so it is with the Sea Boy Scouts. If members of the organisation seek to enter the British Navy they are at perfect liberty to do that. But there is no compulsion in the matter, and no subtle persuasions are brought to bear.”

This paragraph exactly expressed the attitude of the Chief Scout and his Council, an attitude which was maintained throughout, in spite of many criticisms and much misunderstanding and many efforts on the part of extremists, military and anti-military, to divert the course of Scouting into their own pet channels.

The bogey of “militarism” was certainly agitating the minds of a section of the public in 1910, and the formidable list of military titles, headed by two Generals on the Headquarters Council, did nothing to disarm suspicion.

Replying to some of these critics the Chief Scout wrote:

“Speaking as one of these Generals I would point out that we are rather like the circus horse who has retired into private life and become a respectable brougham horse. His white coat, dappled with black spots, proclaims his former profession, but it does not therefore follow that he will perform tricks as he proceeds sedately along in harness.

“So we who have had military titles attached to our names are not necessarily without the hearts and peaceful aspiration of our fellow-citizens. If anything, having seen war and its horrors, we are perhaps more desirous than others to promote peace. We shall not play our war tricks off in a peaceful organisation.

“The reason why so many ex-Servicemen appear in our organisation is that it is difficult to find other gentlemen who have the leisure and energy for the work — business men having still their business and country gentlemen having their multifarious duties to perform — whereas there are plenty of retired naval and military officers still anxious to do something for their country.”

From whatever point of view they regarded it, it is clear that soldiers at any rate saw value in the training of boys as Scouts. Lord Haldane, Secretary of State for War, was one of the first to commend the scheme. Lord Roberts was an original member of the Council. Lord Kitchener’s connection with Scouting was one of active personal interest. He had his “Own” Troop in North London, which he selected as one really in need of help, and to which he devoted much time and kindness; and he frequently inspected parades and gatherings of Scouts in other places.

It is to Lord Kitchener that the Scouts owe the slogan so well known throughout the Movement, “Once a Scout always a Scout.” He joined the Council in 1911.

It is not, however, mainly on the patronage and approval of those in high places that the success or failure of an enterprise depends. In the case of the Boy Scout Movement no amount of organisation at the head, and no amount of enthusiasm among the boys could have built it up on to the healthy footing which it achieved, without one very important factor — the Scoutmaster.

The one person in the Scout Movement on whom first, last, and all the time depended its success or its failure was the Scoutmaster — the term given to an “officer” in charge of a Troop of Boy Scouts.

The very name was a happy one, for it is one of the few titles in the Movement which has received universal approval; and no serious criticism has ever been launched against it even by anti-militarists, though it was, as a matter of fact, a military title in bygone days.

When working up Scouting in the Army, General Baden-Powell had suggested that the rank and title of “Scoutmaster” should be revived in the Service and, since the suggestion was not adopted there, he applied the name instead to the men who came forward in such surprising numbers to train the boys as Scouts.

It must be borne in mind that in 1908 there had been no Armageddon to stir people into action; no one was looking for or talking of a “moral equivalent for war.” Social service for the most part was left to the clergy and women of the country. It was therefore little less than astounding that, at a call from the Chief Scout, or appeals from groups of small boys, no less than 7000 men and women should have come forward to lend a hand in carrying out the Scout scheme.

Scoutmasters were of no particular class, creed or calling. “Cooks’ sons, dukes’ sons, sons of belted earls” — all came in to play their self-sacrificing but joyful part in the great game.

The qualifications for a Scoutmaster were of the simplest, and the services of volunteers were accepted in the spirit in which they were offered.

There were, of course, some failures, but the few men who joined the Movement in the hope of any personal profit to be made out of it soon dropped out again when they found that Scoutmastership was a

matter of personal sacrifice and self-effacement, of expenditure of time, trouble and often of money as well — for no reward other than the satisfaction of having done “something for nothing.”

Although there were not, and never have been, enough Scoutmasters to deal with the masses of boys eager to be Scouts, there was nevertheless a steady influx of public-spirited men to the ranks of the Movement.

The question of a uniform for them was a matter of great difficulty and one which the Chief Scout left for evolution to decide.

The boys’ uniform of shorts, shirt, broad-brimmed hat, scarf and staff had been adopted by the Scouts themselves in imitation of what B-P. had worn in South Africa. But it was foreseen that any strict insistence on a definite uniform would keep many good men away, and the matter was therefore left undecided.

At the Crystal Palace Rally in 1909 “uniform” would certainly have been a strange word to apply to the heterogeneous collection of garments among the grown-up members of the Movement. These varied from the simple and serviceable kit of the boys to the most ultra-military trappings, and included in their range almost every known form of clothing of the period.

That the Scoutmasters themselves desired some guidance in the matter became evident after this first assembly, and Headquarters accordingly put forward the following suggestions in the “Regulations” which were first issued in 1910:

#### SCOUTMASTERS’ UNIFORM.

Any extraordinary get-up is much to be deprecated. It is not allowable for military uniforms to be copied. Those Scoutmasters who are entitled to wear military uniforms should not adopt this dress when Scouting with or drilling Troops.

#### UNIFORM FOR CAMP, GAMES, ETC.

Hat, flat-brimmed, khaki, with the appropriate badge on the left side. Flannel Scout’s shirt with collar and green tie, short sleeves. Or the coloured neckerchief may be worn. If needed, a white sweater may be worn over the shirt. Shoulder knot — white on left shoulder. Belt, shorts, stockings and shoes, as for Scouts.

#### UNIFORM FOR DRILLS AND PARADES.

Hat, shirt, coloured collar and tie, belt as above, knicker breeches, stockings, puttees, or leather gaiters, walking-stick, whistle and lanyard.

If a coat is needed it should be of the Norfolk variety and not an imitation of a military tunic.

AIGULETS, SPURS, SWORDS, REVOLVERS, GAUNTLETS AND RIDING-CROPS MUST NOT BE USED.

N.B. — All the latter mentioned details had been in evidence at the Crystal Palace.

This suggestion, while throwing a certain amount of light on the difficulty by a process of elimination, did not altogether solve it, and the question was freely ventilated during the following years in the *Headquarters Gazette*.

Lord Glanusk, Chief Commissioner for Wales, writing on the subject in 1911, expressed what afterwards became the general opinion of most officers in the Movement. “Personally I dress and I ask my Scoutmasters to dress the same as the boys. The fancy uniforms of khaki or black are, I think, most unsuitable and objectionable. Nothing is more comfortable in the summer than shorts, a flannel shirt and a shady hat.”

This simple uniform, with the addition of a plain khaki tunic for more ceremonial occasions, was what gradually came into use and was later “recognised” as the correct dress for Scoutmasters.

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Before leaving for the time the subject of Scoutmasters, it may be of interest to note a very early application of the word.

It is to be found in *Ivanhoe*, and contains a curious coincidence, in view of the fact that the Chief Scout was living at Richmond Castle in the early days of the Movement.

“Prince John summoned an attendant. ‘Bid Barden our Scoutmaster come hither as soon as he shall have spoken with Waldemar FitzUrse.’

“The Scoutmaster arrived after a brief delay, during which Prince John traversed the apartment with unequal and disordered steps. ‘Barden,’ said he, ‘what did Waldemar desire of thee?’

“ ‘Two resolute men well acquainted with these Northern wolds and skilful in tracking the tread of men or horse.’

“ ‘And thou hast fitted him?’

“ ‘Let your Grace never trust me else,’ answered the man of spies. ‘One is from Hexham. He is wont to trace the Tynedale thieves as a bloodhound follows the slot of a hurt deer, the other is Yorkshire bred and has twanged his bow-string right oft in merry Sherwood; he knows each glade and dingle, copse and high wood betwixt this and Richmond.’

“ ‘Tis well,’ said the Prince.”

The death of King Edward in May 1910, which came as a shock to the whole nation and Empire, removed from the Boy Scout Movement a real friend and supporter.

Early in 1910, while staying at Eaton Hall, Cheshire, he had seen a March Past of some of the Cheshire (Birkenhead) Scouts and had expressed warm approval of their discipline and efficiency. He had further expressed personal concern lest, in their scanty attire of shirt and shorts (a covering which in 1910 looked less adequate than would have been the case twenty years later), they should have taken cold while standing on the parade ground.

In deference to His Majesty’s wishes Scoutmasters were reminded, from Headquarters, that Scouts should be provided with “official jerseys” or allowed to wear their greatcoats on cold days.

This was but one instance of the King’s close personal interest in the well-being of the Movement.

Those who have read Sir Sidney Lee’s biography of Edward VII will have realised how, up to the last day of his life, His Majesty was conscientiously carrying out his everyday duties; and only the day before his death the Chief Scout had been at Buckingham Palace discussing with an equerry the plans for a big Scout Rally which His Majesty hoped to review at Windsor.

The Scouts, as a body, were not destined to see His Majesty alive; but at his funeral in May detachments of them had the honour of being in charge of the thousands of wreaths which were hung along the route of the procession, and this united “good turn” brought them before the public eye, and their conduct and appearance, as the Chief Scout commented in the *Gazette*, “gained for them a very important step in public estimation.”

General Sir Ian Hamilton, Adjutant-General to the Forces, wrote of those Scouts who were present at the funeral:

“Without a single exception they stood in their places as steady as veteran soldiers, and their whole attitude, wherever I saw them, was reverential and highly creditable to the corps which they were chosen to represent.”

In the July number of the *Headquarters Gazette* the Chief Scout was able to announce that King George V had been pleased to become the Patron of the Boy Scout Movement.

“This announcement,” wrote the Chief, “will have been warmly welcomed by every Scoutmaster as it has been by every Scout in the Empire. It means that a continuation of that friendly interest which was shown for us by His late Majesty King Edward, and will be a very great incentive to us all to work together to develop out Movement to the great end before us, namely, to make the rising generation into a nation of good, manly citizens, energetic, unselfish, resourceful, loyal and chivalrous.”



A GROUP OF DELEGATES AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE CONFERENCE IN 1909  
This was the first Conference of Scout Workers.

Early in 1910 it had become evident, as Lord Roberts and others had foreseen, that financial support on a larger scale was necessary to put the Movement on a sound footing, and an appeal was sent to the Press in the following terms:

DEAR SIR,

In most parts of the country Boy Scouts have now become a familiar sight, but comparatively few people seem to know that there is a meaning underlying their games and organisations.

In most of our cities unemployed men are also now a too familiar sight, even when we are daily reading that men are badly needed in our Oversea Dominions.

Yet the surplus of the one cannot supply the wants of the others. The reason given is that these men are not any use when they get there; “they are unable to look after themselves, unable to stick to a job, have neither resourcefulness, energy nor sense of duty.”

So they remain here unemployed and unemployable — a canker to the nation.

We try to alleviate their wants, but we do not do much to prevent their reproduction in the next generation — and this is the important point.

Boys are put out to work as soon as they can earn a wage in “blind-alley” occupations which are easy but lead to nothing, and at eighteen they have to leave these. Forty-eight per cent of them then go to recruit the ranks of the unemployed, having neither learnt handicraft nor acquired character.

The Boy Scout Movement is one attempt, among others, to help in remedying this evil.

Our training is designed to give the boys of whatever class the education needed outside the school walls in manliness and self-helpfulness, BY MEANS WHICH REALLY ATTRACT AND APPEAL TO THEM, namely, Scoutcraft and Backwoodsmanship.

It is non-military and non-sectarian, and merely aims at inculcating good citizenship.

Although the Movement is yet in its infancy, results are even now beginning to show themselves. Parents, schoolmasters and chief constables write of the change for good wrought in the boys; interchange of fraternal sentiment with the Colonies has begun; over 22,000 badges for efficiency in various handicrafts and 84 medals for life-saving have been awarded to Scouts during the past twelve months.

But to continue our work and to place it on a permanent basis for good we need two things:

First. WE WANT MEN TO ACT AS SCOUTMASTERS, that is, to take the training of the boys or organisation locally of the Movement. There must be a large number of young men to whom it has never occurred that by devoting to such service some of the time now spent in recreations, they have it in their power to do valuable work for their country.

Secondly. We want funds to meet the necessary expenditure on staff and organisation; at any rate for the next three years.

So far we have just been able to keep out of debt.

From the sympathy already extended to the Movement by those who realise its objects, I feel that I have only to make these two wants known to receive the help we ask for.

Subscriptions (annual, if possible, for three years) will be gladly received by Mr. Francis W. Pixley, Treasurer, and applications for information by the Secretary, both at Boy Scouts Headquarters, 116 Victoria Street.

I am, yours faithfully,  
R. BADEN-POWELL.

This appeal was taken up and “fathered” by the *Daily Telegraph*, and in their able hands the sum of £10,000 was obtained, in donations and annual subscriptions spread over three years.

The King’s death in May, however, brought the appeal to an abrupt close, and in January of the following year the Duke of Connaught, who had shared his royal brother’s belief in the possibilities of Scouting from the very beginning, came to the rescue and presided at a great Inaugural Banquet on behalf of the Movement. At this dinner a further sum of £3000 was realised, thus relieving the Headquarters Committee of any immediate anxiety.

His Royal Highness’s presidential address was a memorable one, and was subsequently issued in pamphlet form and widely distributed. This speech, coming at such a time, and from such an influential quarter, was a very valuable asset to the Movement in obtaining the confidence and support of the public.

His Royal Highness, in submitting the toast of the Boy Scouts, said: “We are all assembled here to do honour to this toast. I do not think it is quite understood in the country what the Boy Scouts exactly are and their origin, so I crave your permission to read a statement which gives a slight description of the origin of the Movement. When you have heard it I feel sure the Boy Scouts organisation will appeal to your sympathy as one that is thoroughly British and fraught with food for the future generation. (Cheers.) The Movement started just three years ago, namely in January 1908, on the publication of the handbook *Scouting for Boys*. This book was written mainly for the benefit of existing organisations such as the Boys’ Brigade, the Church Lads’ Brigade, etc., and was a development of the idea of the training of Army Scouts made adaptable to boys. (Cheers.)”

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“But, in addition to these organisations, a very large number of boys not belonging to any of them also took it up, so that the present separate Association had to be formed to direct the Movement. The aim is to give the boys a healthy and attractive pastime for outdoor and indoors, such as really appeals to them, and which, at the same time, develops in them the spirit of manliness and good citizenship. (Cheers.) Through the practice of elementary backwoodsmanship and scoutcraft, which appeals to everybody, character training is given in resourcefulness, self-reliance, sense of duty, honour, pluck, thrift and self-sacrifice. (Cheers.)

“The Movement is not intended to be a military organisation, nor does it confine itself to any one form of religion. (Cheers.) It applies equally to all classes, creeds and countries, without distinction. (Cheers.) Its aim is simply to develop good citizens. It has received the approval of the heads of all the Churches of Great Britain, and it is carried out in co-operation with all other bodies working to the same ends. The Movement has now extended to all parts of the British Empire. In Great Britain alone there are 7000 officers and over 100,000 Scouts enrolled in the Association, besides many more in other corps not under the Association, but working on similar lines adapted to their own ideas. In the Oversea Dominions there are many thousands more belonging to the Association, and most foreign countries have also begun to use the scheme, so that the total probably aggregates already 250,000 Boy Scouts. (Cheers.)

#### THE RISING GENERATION

“I have ventured to bore you by reading these details because possibly some who are present to-night may not have quite understood the origin of the Movement. I believe that we shall all agree that the Movement is fraught with the greatest benefit to the future of the rising generation. (Cheers.) Many of us grown-up men had our time so much taken up with our duties and out business that I think we have rather forgotten the boys who are growing up to manhood. I think there has been a want of sympathy shown towards those who have to begin the strife of life. They want something to keep them together, something to take the place of the school they have probably left, something to enable them to feel the comradeship which all of us men require so much. I think the idea that Sir Robert Baden-Powell has in forming this institution is one of the best that has ever been carried out in England. (Cheers.)

“Many of us are fathers of families, and have boys to bring up. Sometimes boys of a certain age are a great nuisance. (Laughter.) We at that age were probably an equally great nuisance. (Laughter.) We can show, as is done in this Movement, sympathy with the boys at a time when they require a helping hand, when they require to be brought out, when they require to be taught the enormous advantages of discipline, of self-respect, of respect for their seniors, and also of kindness of heart. (Cheers.) The great principles of the Boy Scout Movement, as I have described them, include the principle that each boy should try to perform some kind act to somebody else, and the idea of bringing out all that is most intelligent in a boy is combined with it.

“I am afraid that as a nation we are probably the least observant of any. To develop at an age like that of the Boy Scouts — when it is so easy to learn — the powers of observation is a great advantage not only to the boys themselves, but to the country at large. The Boy Scout Movement, conducted on careful lines, as it has been in the past, and as I am sure it will be, will, I believe, be productive of the very best and healthiest results to the manhood of this country. (Cheers.)

#### SCOUTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

“I have mentioned that the Movement has been extended to other portions of the Empire. I have only recently come back from South Africa — (Cheers) — and I can assure you that in every town I went into there were Boy Scouts — cheery, smart and intelligent, ready to turn their hands to any duty. Whether it was aiding fainting people in the crowd, stopping a runaway horse, assisting to feed a large assemblage of children, or helping to keep the ground on ceremonial occasions, they were always to the front. (Cheers.)

“They took a pride in their work, and will never forget that they were asked to assist in those receptions. It was good for them, and they were of great use to everybody in the places I have referred to. (Cheers.)

“I hope the result of this gathering to-night may be one that will help the Boy Scout Movement to continue its good work and to become firmly established. We all recognise that it has been well founded, but funds are required to establish it and to continue the good work that has already been done. I think we owe a great debt of gratitude to General Baden-Powell. (Loud cheers.) He is an old friend of mine. We served together in India twenty-eight years ago, and I am sure a man who was as good an adjutant as he was in is certain to make an excellent organisation requiring such careful management as this one does. (Cheers.)

“I congratulate him on the success he has achieved. It will be seen from what I have said to-night that His Majesty the King has wished to show the interest he takes in the Movement by the contribution he has made — (loud cheers) — and I am sure not only those gentlemen who have so kindly supported me this evening, but others throughout the country, will display their sympathy with a Movement which is working in the best interests of the rising generation by assisting it in every possible way. I ask you to join be in drinking ‘Success to the Boy Scouts.’ ” (Loud cheers.)

The toast was honoured to the strains of “The Boy Scouts March.”

The *Evening Standard*, commenting in “Topic of the Day” on the Scout Movement, described it as “one of the marvels of the age. It is only three years old, and already it has captured the world. No longer than January 1908 it did not exist. Then it was started, quite quietly and unobtrusively, with no parade or fuss, and it was an instant and amazing success. ‘Why didn’t we think of it before,’ we said, as we do when we are in the presence of any other grand simple discovery. Everybody could see it was one of the things we had been waiting for. All the best youngsters in England became Scouts, the best young men became Scoutmasters. There are said to be a hundred thousand of the former, seven thousand of the latter in Great Britain alone. It passes into the United States, and American boys took to it as ducks take to water. The Colonies, Australia, Canada, South Africa, adopted it with enthusiasm. So did foreign countries; there are Russian, German, Italian Boy Scouts. It is a great world-movement — one that will help to make the second decade of the twentieth century memorable, on that will be alive and vigorous when half the things we are squabbling and worrying about are forgotten.

“It succeeds because it is based upon elemental qualities in human nature, because it appeals to the emotional, the ethical, and the adventurous instincts which are present, though they may be latent, in all boys — and in all men and all women also. It asks its members both to do something and to be something, which is what all of us — especially boys — want, if we only knew. Every normally constituted boy has a taste for action, for excitement, for adventure, for the employment of his energies. When there is no legitimate outlet for this natural desire, he must try to gratify it in ways which are sometimes silly and may be harmful. The Scout Movement directs the stream into the right channels. It confers discipline, regulated exertion, self-control, self-respect, courage. Obedience becomes an honourable obligation instead of an irksome duty. Amusement can be found not in rowdiness or destruction, but in helpful work. The Scout is a member of an order, an association; he dons the communal feeling when he puts on his uniform; replaces his ragged individualism. We have been suffering as a nation from a lack of organisation, of the consciousness of common effort devoted to common ends. But the Boy Scout is organised, he is aware of obligations to a larger entity, to society as a whole, to the nation. He is not worried by military drill; but he has the best part of the soldier’s training, the part of it which has made compulsory service inestimably valuable to some of the continental peoples.

“Sir Robert Baden-Powell yesterday described some of the valiant deeds the Boy Scouts have done, how they have saved lives, averted disasters, behaved like little heroes in moments of peril and catastrophe. But it is not given to every Boy Scout to stop runaway horses or rescue drowning persons. These are the greater opportunities, which may or may not come. On the other hand, the lesser chances arrive daily and hourly; it is part of the Rule of Order that they should come. Behind the discipline and the exercises lies the great principle of altruism. There are no theological tests for Boy Scouts; but the whole scheme rests on the fundamental basis of Christianity. Every Scout is expected to seek

opportunities for doing some good deed for somebody every day of his life. To have made this the leading formula of the Boy Scouts' faith was a grand inspiration. It is really quite as interesting to do good as to do evil, and the boys have found it so. They have discovered that virtue and self-sacrifice are not dull and dreary, but, on the contrary, extremely amusing. The hunt for the good deed is an excellent game, and the boys enjoy it. And it is a game that can be pursued at all hours. It is applied religion. In the Sunday-schools and the churches boys used to be taught they theory of being good, amid yawns. In the Patrols they learn the business practically, and find it full of brisk and varied vitality.

“The Movement is for training up a new and better generation of young men. The Boy Scout at nineteen will be something very different from the cigarette-smoking street-corner loafer, who diversifies his indolence by occasional bursts of hooliganism. He will be smart, clean, alert, well-mannered. But what is to become of him after he is too old to wear the slouch hat and knickerbockers and is no longer a boy? That is the next problem to be tackled. It will be sheer waste to permit the results of this superb moral and physical training to be lost in the sea of casual, half-employed labour. Having begun the process of turning the boys into good citizens, we must go on with it. The Movement now requires to be supplemented by some organisation for securing that boys are prepared for some useful trades, for keeping them out of the unskilled, indefinite occupations through which men drift into the ranks of the unemployed and the unemployable. Sir Robert Baden-Powell has begun; there are schemes for technical training, for farm schools, where boys can be prepared for life on the land and life Overseas. No money and effort that can be devoted to such projects will be wasted. They will render the Boy Scout Movement an even more valuable factor in social and national development than it is at present.”

In the previous August (1910) on the invitation of the Scout authorities in Canada, where Lord Grey, as Governor-General, was taking a close interest in the Movement, the Chief Scout had been busy making a tour of that Dominion looking into and developing the organisation of the Boy Scouts.

He took with him two Patrols of picked Scouts, in order to illustrate in practice the aims and methods of the Movement, which he described in detail at the great centres of population of the Dominion.

On board the *Empress of Ireland* the Scouts interested the passengers with displays of Scoutcraft and Scouting games — a novel form of entertainment which was highly appreciated.

The Scoutmasters in charge of these Patrols were Captain Wade, Scoutmaster of the 1st Chichester Troop and County Secretary for Sussex, and E. G. S. Walker, Headquarters Organising Commissioner.

The party landed at Quebec, and took train to Winnipeg, where public meetings were addressed and displays given. From there they went to camp on a ranch in the Grand Valley at the foot of the Rockies, where they fraternised with the valley farmers and the Red Indians from the Calgary Reserve. Here the boys has the time of their lives, being shown at first hand the life and work of the backwoodsman, including ranching, riding the rounds, catching trout in the rivers with grasshoppers as bait, rounding up the yearlings, helping with the branding, and fending for themselves in camp. In the afternoons the boys divided forces and visited all the farms within reach to tell the inhabitants the latest news of the home country. These visits were tremendously popular on all sides.

On the return journey visits were paid to Banff, where the Scouts saw the last of the wild buffaloes safely preserved in the great National Park. Thence they went to the Lake of the Woods and pitched their camp on an island next to that used by the Y.M.C.A. for their summer camps. Here the Scouts had their first experience of canoeing, and under Indian instructors they soon became adepts.

From there the party went to Toronto to camp in the grounds of the great National Exhibition, to which they contributed displays of Scoutcraft.

While the boys were in camp the Chief Scout was touring other parts of the Dominion, addressing meetings and interviewing leaders of Canadian life. He joined the party again at Toronto, where he officially inspected a great Rally of some two thousand Canadian Scouts.

From Toronto the Scouts visited the Niagara Falls and crossed the bridge dividing Canada from the States. They returned home via Quebec, while the Chief went on to New York at the invitation of the American Boy Scout National Council.

The Chief Scout's report, issued on his return to England, is interesting.

"It may be of interest if I add here that in response to an invitation from the United States I went for two days to New York to help with suggestions the men who are organising Scouting in America.

"A capable National Council has been formed, which includes Mr. Roosevelt, General Woods, Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton, Mr. Dan Beard (of Boone's Boys), as well as the leading and very efficient organisers of the Y.M.C.A., such as Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Ernest Robinson and others. Branch Councils are being formed in the different States.

"There are numbers of small organisations for boys in America and these all appear to be amalgamating themselves in the Boy Scout Movement, and already some 2500 officers, representing about 140,000 boys, have applied for affiliation or appointment. Another organisation of Boy Scouts has also been started by Mr. Hearst and will probably amalgamate eventually.

"A very good class of worker has been secured, and the Movement is supported by a number of well-to-do patriotic young men who will provide the required funds. This is an element which is wanting in Britain, but is the one which makes all the difference in organisation, since it provides, *inter alia*, paid organising secretaries. Immediate development on a business-like basis is thus secured, headed by men of the best standing to direct it — men who would not have the time to devote to helping amateur efforts in organisation, but who are willing to advise and supervise where skilled administration of the details is assured.

"I believe that if similar provision of paid organising secretaries could be secured in all out branched the Movement would in a very short time rise to a far higher level in numbers and in power for doing actual good."

The Scout Movement in America, as the above report shows, was already well under way before Baden-Powell went there.

As early as 1909 President Roosevelt had written to the Chief Scout with regard to *Scouting for Boys*:

"I most cordially sympathise not only with the methods of the book, but perhaps even more with its purpose, for, of course, with very trifling changes of language, the lessons which it teaches are as applicable to and as necessary for young Americans as young Englishmen. If the next generation grows up to be wishy-washy, to lack patriotism, and neither to have nor to admire the sterner virtues, the outlook will be indeed gloomy, and I think that mere frivolity — mere love of cheap excitement, may do as much damage as corruption. Moreover, I quite agree with the lesson of this book that ordinary athletic sports, excellent though they are, do not take the place of life in the open as you teach it."

It was the simple daily good turn of an English Boy Scout, however, rather than any theoretical study, which had been the means of introducing the Movement into the States, very shortly after its introduction in England.

Mr. J. D. Boyce of Chicago had lost his way in the streets of London when a small boy came up and offered to direct him and to carry his bag. To his astonishment the youth refused to accept any reward, explaining that he was a Boy Scout and did not take tips.

On thinking the matter over the American came to the conclusion that there must be more than met the eye in a Movement which induced a poor boy to refuse a substantial sum of money in exchange for services rendered, and he determined to enquire further into the Movement before leaving England.

That this was the direct cause of the introduction of Scouting into the United States was acknowledged in a most graceful manner some fifteen years later when the American Ambassador on behalf of his country handed to the Prince of Wales, representing the Boy Scouts of Great Britain, a bronze statuette of an American bison inscribed with the story related above. The statuette now stands in Gillwell Park, Chingford, the Scouts' Training Centre.

To Mr. Thompson Seton, late Chief Scout of America, the Movement owed much inspiration, and in the preface of the first edition of *Scouting for Boys* the Chief Scout acknowledged the help which the scheme had received from the writings of Mr. Thompson Seton on Woodcraft and his personal experience of dealing with boys in his "Woodcraft Indians" movement.

Mr. Daniel Carter Beard was another pioneer of American Scouting, and, as in England, the Movement received the wholehearted support of the Y.M.C.A. in its early organisation.

To return to Scouting in Canada, a year after the Chief's visit to the Dominion, Lord Grey wrote to him that "The Boy Scout Movement is putting new ideals and a new religion into the boys of Canada."

Lord Grey's office as Governor-General (and therefore as Chief Scout) expired in 1911, and he was succeeded by that other good friend of Scouting, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who, as you have seen, had already taken a close interest in the organisation.

On his arrival in Canada the Duke informed a deputation representing the Canadian Boy Scouts that he desired to do all in his power to encourage the movement in the Dominion. All warrants of appointment, and every certificate of award for gallantry on the part of the Canadian Scouts, bore the signature of His Royal Highness during the term of his office as Chief Scout of Canada.

The Dominion Council sent a contingent of Scouts to England for the Coronation of King George V in 1911, and these boys also represented the Dominion at the Royal Rally at Windsor in July.

The party numbered 136, including four Commissioners.

They arrived at Liverpool in June and were met by Colonel de Burgh and escorted to the grounds of Roehampton House, kindly lent by Captain and Mrs. Arthur Grenfell, who did everything possible for their comfort and pleasure.

On Coronation Day, June 22nd, and on the day following, space on Constitution Hill had been reserved by Lord Kitchener for the Boy Scouts. The Canadian contingent, together with a hundred picked English Scouts — mostly wearing the life-saving medal — was under the command of the Chief Scout, who led the boys in cheering their newly crowned Majesties.

The time between the Coronation and the Windsor Rally was spent by the Canadians in visiting Goodwood, where they stayed by invitation of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, President of the Sussex Scouts, and his son the Earl of March, County Commissioner.

Lord March showed them over Goodwood House, and took endless trouble in pointing out its countless historic treasures. Thence they went to Hastings, where again a warm welcome awaited them from the Mayor, and the Y.M.C.A., and Mr. C. W. von Roemer, Secretary of the Sussex Scouts, took them to see Pevensey Castle, Beachy Head, Battle Abbey, and other places of interest.

Thus these young Canadians had seen something of the homeland, not only in her pomp and ceremony, but also in the quiet splendour of her country-side. But before leaving her shores they themselves took part in a ceremony, historic, if not in the annals of England, at any rate in those of the Scout Movement.



July 4th, 1911, dawned — a day of blazing sunshine — and with it assembled the biggest and most representative gathering of Scouts that had yet been seen.

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For a description of this Rally, the plans for which had been drawn up in detail by the Chief Scout himself, I cannot do better than quote in full the vivid description of the day by Mr. Marcus Woodward in the *Headquarters Gazette*:

“The great day of this Rally, the greatest in the history of the Boy Scout Movement — its Coronation Day, one might say — is to be written down a magnificent success.

“July 4th, 1911, will never be forgotten by anyone then so happy as to be in Windsor Great Park. The Boy Scouts have taken home with them a memory, the story of which, we may be sure, will lose nothing in the telling when their grandchildren are about them in ages to come.

“The day was a triumph of Kingship and Scoutcraft.

“Triumphant indeed was the King’s progress through the serried ranks of the Scouts; he knew that he was amongst the loyalest of the loyal, that every one of the 30,000 stout hearts around him beat true. The way the Scouts cheered proved their genuine loyalty and their freshly inspired devotion to the Throne. The King won the boys’ hearts. He looked, as he is, every inch a King, and showed clearly his keen interest and pleasure in meeting his Scouts.

“ ‘What did the King say?’ I ventured to ask Sir Robert point-blank, when a happy turn of Fortune’s wheel pitchforked me into his car for a few minutes after the Rally (how the streets were roaring with the Scouts’ cheers for the Chief as the car sped through Windsor).

“ ‘He was interested above all in the life-savers,’ said the Chief. ‘He thought the charge the most stirring moment of the day, and the march past of the life-savers and the banner-bearers the prettiest. He was very pleased with the appearance of the King’s Scouts. And he said he was especially glad to learn that each Scout present had a little balance in the bank, thinking it an excellent thing that Scouts should save money before the time came to buy themselves badges. The King was as pleased as he was surprised by what he saw — there is no doubt of that.’

“The day was a triumph for the Chief. Those of us who chanced to be in the camp in the early morning when his car came dashing in among the tents enjoyed the rare sight of the Chief Scout not prepared — in fact, for once quite taken aback. He was given such a cheer from the Scouts that they must have heard it at Windsor Castle. And then the spontaneous and quite unauthorised cheer — it was not anywhere in the programme — which went up from the review ground when, at the last moment, he rode round the lines to make a final inspection before the King came, while a forest of staves shot aloft, was a revelation in heartiness and the power, never doubted, of Scout lungs — it was like a thousand booming Niagaras gone mad.

“These cheers of the Scouts spoke certainly of a personal triumph for the Chief Scout, but even they could not express the real triumph which the day was for him, the crowning day of the long and arduous work which he has done so well for the cause of boyhood. Many of us felt on July 4th that such a great day for Sir Robert and for the Scout could never come again. Let us now repent the thought, and hope that many such great days will yet do honour to the Chief and his Movement.

“Other triumphs the day brought in plenty — notably to the men behind the scenes who pulled the ropes. The organisers cannot be praised too highly. General Sir Herbert Plumer, Colonel H. S. Brownrigg, and Mr. P. W. Everett bore the brunt of the work of the day’s arrangements; they are to be congratulated indeed, with all the Headquarters staff — the wonder is they survived the day. All Scoutmasters showed again their keenness and devotion; their responsibility was heavy, their anxieties were manifold, but the way they shepherded their flocks was beyond praise.

“The greatest triumph was to the Scouts themselves. They quitted themselves like men and won universal praise from the onlookers. Many of them were travelling through the night, arriving at Windsor with break of day; very few had any chance of a good sleep; but the end of the day saw Scouts smiling and whistling in their accustomed way. A special word of praise is due to the St. John’s Ambulance men for their excellent help to exhausted Scouts.

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“That the 30,000 Scouts most thoroughly enjoyed themselves, on the whole, is beyond question. July 4th brought the golden day of a lifetime to thousands of boys. They saw the sights of their life. Hosts saw London for the first time, Scouts of Scotland, of Ireland, of Wales, of Canada, of Gibraltar, of the Isle of Man, of the Isle of Wight, and distant provinces and countries, as well as of home counties. Thousands saw their Chief for the first time, a heart-gladdening sight. And, for sight of sights, there was the King on his charger, seeing everyone who saw him, and with an answering look for all the loyal eyes focussed upon him, and there was the Queen in her carriage, a vision in blue.

“The whole story of the Rally will never be told coherently; there are 30,000 versions of it at least in existence. I suppose we could all tell thrilling tales of our personal adventures, and could offer criticisms as well as admire the clock-like precision with which the programme was carried out, and tell of things which went askew or fell flat, like the singing of the Eengonyama chorus. Out of an endless series of pleasing pictures which the day brought, I will try, by your leave, to sketch a few which made strongest appeal.

“I see a picture of the Chief Scout sitting in a deck-chair, on the eve of the Rally, beneath the trees of the officials’ quarters in the great camp, writing a letter in pencil with his left hand. It is something important, as he seems not to see you though you go ever so close, and so you wisely go away. Two copies were taken of the letter of memorandum — one went straight to the King through his Secretary, Major Wigram, the other I was given to re-copy here. The document following will be read with interest for what is between the lines — the King’s desire for information on the eve of the Rally, about the Scouts, especially for information which would enable him to recognise badges and distinctions of honour, and the brilliancy of the dispatch written in a few moments amid the distractions of camp stir and bustle — not a word wasted, and a complete guide achieved to the whole Scout Movement and the Rally in a nutshell:

“ ‘There will be between thirty and forty thousand Scouts on parade out of our 200,000. These have all passed some tests in tracking, cooking, first-aid, ambulance, missioner, signalling, field telegraph, pioneering, and other such work.

“ ‘Numerous cases have occurred of public work being performed by Scouts in aid of police or in accidents, notably last week in the Coronation accident at Barnstaple, and in the arrest of an armed murderer at Red Deer, Alberta.

“ ‘The Scouts present include 100 from Canada, detachments from Malta, Gibraltar, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, as well as from all parts of England.

“ ‘All Scouts wearing medals have saved life. Of these there are 229. King’s Scouts wear a crown on the left arm; of these there are 2397. Badges on the left arm stand for tests passed in various handicrafts. Of these, over 137,000 have been issued. A cord round the shoulder means that the wearer holds at least six efficiency badges. A silver wolf round the neck means at least twenty-four proficiency badges have been gained.

“ ‘We have Scouts in all Oversea Dominions. Boy Scouts have been started also in most European countries, as well as in the United States, Chile, Argentine, etc. Sea Scouts form a branch of the Boy Scouts, for coastguard work and seamanship, and some Troops specialize in fire-brigade work.

“ ‘Messages of loyalty and regret at inability to attend the Rally have been received from Troops in the Orange Free State, Natal and Australia.’

“The boy-crowded streets of Windsor on the Monday evening and Tuesday were pictures we shall never forget. On the Tuesday evening some 18,000 boys and young men of the Officers’ Training Corps were thronging the streets — and the river was brown with them — after their Royal review, a military khaki affair very different from the picturesque Rally of the Scouts. As the Territorial officers of the future went their ways, the Scouts began pouring in, and the streets were solid with boyhood. The Scouts came in with a swing and modest swagger, their shirt-sleeves rolled up, at once free-and-easy and

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essentially workmanlike, ready for anything; and Windsor gave them a warm welcome. All through the night Scouts were coming in; never was the like of the invasion seen.

“At about six on Tuesday morning the Scouts began to find out old hoary Thames, and every wise boy among them took the chance of the refreshment of a bathe. The morning was perfect. Some of us found out a proper and lovely swimming pool just beyond the Great Western’s bridge — the two hours I spent with Scouts on and in the river that beautiful midsummer morning are a delicious memory. But it was obvious that most of the Scouts afloat and bathing had much to learn of seamanship and swimming, among the most important and neglected Scout lessons.

“As the morning wore on visitors by the thousand wandered through the great camp, and informally inspected the Scouts as the gradually assembled on their respective grounds. At every turn one ran against old friends of the young Scout world. Troops rested under the trees in every kind of picturesque and Scout-like attitude, munching provender at intervals. Prince Christian rode round about with curiosity and interest. The Chief Scout went here and there on his fine black horse, the gift of New Zealand admirers. General Sir Herbert Plumer kept an eye on everyone; and wherever one looked Commissioner Everett’s long figure was seen while he went about making sure that every detail of his careful plans was properly carried out. Noon saw most Troops in their temporary positions on the nine assembly grounds, and presently the grand movement to the parade-ground set in without any visible confusion.

“When the series of great semicircles which we had studied with so much interest on paper were at last accomplished, living facts, the review ground presented a spectacle magnificent to behold. People going to their seats and suddenly seeing the vast assembly of boyhood stretching in a semicircle perhaps a mile and a half from horn to horn drew deep breaths, and cried ‘Ah!’ as people do when lovely fireworks break in the night sky. It seemed that three o’clock would never come; but at last the hour was heralded by the appearance of the Chief Scout on his black horse at the centre of the semicircle (if such a point can be imagined), and in a few minutes he sounded the whistle which brought the host of young patriots, as one man, to the alert.

“A royal carriage with a pair of greys drove up with little Prince George, who came in for an ovation. Then came four greys, and the Queen was bowing to us, graceful and beautiful; the Prince of Wales, Princess Mary and Princess Christian with her. Just as their carriage reached its position a Scout, overcome by the heat, which was growing tropical, fainted, to the Queen’s deep concern, and was borne past her carriage; the Queen at once sent an equerry to make enquiries. Then came the King’s cavalcade: Life Guards, a line of Indians in gorgeous uniform, the King, smiling and saluting, the Duke of Connaught, General Prince Christian, Major Prince Alexander of Teck, and the trim, little, much-worshipped figure of Lord Roberts among others.

“The King beckoned Sir Robert to his side, and, preceded by his glittering staff, followed by the Queen, set off on the tour of inspection, which must have been two or three miles long. The royal party was gone for a clear fifty minutes, and spectators were grateful for the little displays of ambulance work and fire-lighting, admirably carried through.

“But at last, on his black horse, in his original position, Sir Robert sounded his whistle again, and then came the great moment of the day, the charge of the thirty thousand. It was magnificently done; the roaring of the Patrol cries suggested that the Zoos of the world had been let loose, the thirty thousand closed in on the King as a great foaming wave, and it seemed that nothing would stop it; spectators trembled lest the King should be enveloped. But at a line, which none but the Scouts knew, the wave stopped dead, as if suddenly frozen; the shouting and the tumult died, and then — silence. And now all eyes were focussed on the advancing lines of banner-bearers, who marched past in what King George considered the prettiest picture of the day, followed by the gallant life-savers, the minute size of some of them causing universal wonder.

“The end was a cheer which lasted for ten minutes, while the forest of white staves shot up aloft once again, testimony enough that the law, ‘A Scout is loyal,’ is a living faith.

“What the King thought of it all His Majesty’s letter well expresses:

WINDSOR CASTLE,  
*July 4th, 1911.*

DEAR SIR ROBERT,

I am commanded to inform you that the King was very much pleased to see so many detachments of the Boy Scouts from all parts of the United Kingdom, including some from the Oversea Dominions, at the Rally to-day.

His Majesty welcomes this opportunity of showing his appreciation of the great voluntary work which is being carried out by men and women of all classes who are striving to further the advance of sound training and education among the rising generation of the Empire.

The healthy appearance, as well as the smartness and keenness of the boys, surprised his Majesty.

I am further to heartily congratulate you and your workers on the widespread interest the Boy Scout Movement has aroused and on the remarkable results already achieved.

The King feels sure that the boys of the Empire will show their gratitude for the encouragement so generously given by the various organisations, both at home and abroad, and will endeavour to become God-fearing and useful citizens.

Believe me,  
Yours sincerely,  
CLIVE WIGRAM.

“His Majesty was surprised, and that word perhaps best describes the feeling of all onlookers. The day was indeed a day of wonder, of memory imperishable.”

After this gigantic assembly the modest 2350 Scouts whom he reviewed in Edinburgh a fortnight later must have appeared to His Majesty a mere handful.

That they were nevertheless a very live and efficient handful must have been evident in their bearing, for His Majesty expressed to the Marquis of Tullibardine, who was in command of the Rally, “both verbally and in writing his unqualified approval.”

In this great Coronation year the Scouts of Wales also came in for their share of royal approbation. The Prince of Wales, on the day of his investiture at Carnarvon Castle, accepted the position of Chief Scout for the Principality, together with a silver-mounted Scout’s staff in token of his office.

Commenting on this incident in his *Outlook* the Chief Scout wrote:

“This recognition of the Scouts by our future sovereign is an honour not only to the Welsh Scouts, but to Boy Scouts wherever they may be in the whole Empire. The happy remark of the Scout who handed the staff to the Prince will, I feel sure, find an echo in the heart of every Scout. He said that the Welsh words ‘Eich Dyn,’ which have been perverted into ‘Ich Dien’ as the motto of the Prince of Wales, mean ‘Your man,’ and in presenting the staff he was acting on behalf of the Welsh Scouts, every one of whom was ready to offer his own staff and services with the words ‘Eich Dyn’ — ‘I’m your man.’ ”

## CHAPTER V

1912-1913

*The granting of the Royal Charter — The Scouts' Farm School — The Chief sees Scouting Overseas — The Chief's marriage — The Birmingham Rally — Birth of Peter, the Chief's son.*

“If I could form the highest ideal for my country it would be this — that it should be a nation of which the manhood was composed exclusively of men who have been, or were, Boy Scouts, and were trained in the Boy Scout theory. Such a nation would be the honour of mankind. It would be the greatest moral force the world has ever known.”

LORD ROSEBERY, 1912.

THE year 1912 opened hopefully. The grant of a Royal Charter of Incorporation by the Privy Council placed the Boy Scouts Association on a new footing, setting the seal of approval of King, Lords and Commons on the ideals and methods of Scouting.

The grant of a Royal Charter at such an early stage of development was regarded as a great compliment to the Chief Scout and his Council and workers.

Another outstanding event of the year was the launching of the Scouts' Farm at Buckhurst Place, near Tunbridge Wells, on the borders of Sussex and Kent. Here, with the assistance of Mr. Benjamin Newgrass, the Chief Scout was able to put into operation a scheme which he had long had in mind, namely, the training of Boy Scouts on the land with a view to their making a success of an agricultural career later, whether at home or Overseas.

During his recent visit to America the Chief had visited the George Junior Republic at Freeville; and he had also studied at first hand the methods of the Little Commonwealth in Dorset, two experiments of government of boys by boys.

At the Scout Farm, however, the principles which had already proved themselves in the Scout method of training were found to be applicable and all that was necessary, so far as administration and discipline were concerned.

The Court of Honour and the Patrol System were applied to the Buckhurst Farm Scout Troop as in an ordinary Scout Troop and, if possible, with even greater success.

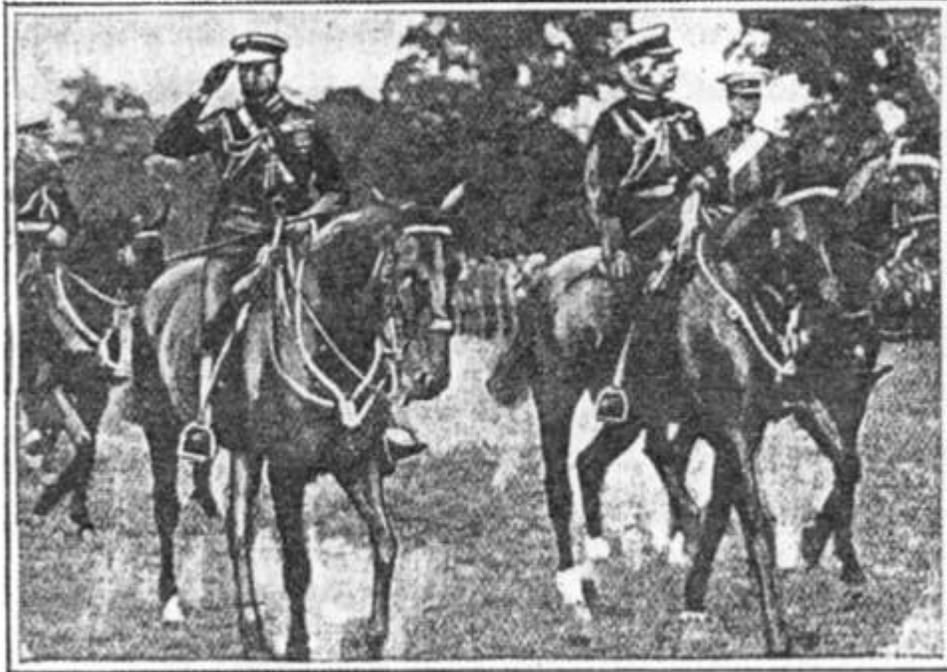
Buckhurst Place (note the magic initials “B-P.” recurring in its title) consisted of a main farm for instructional and demonstration purposes, and also a series of smaller homesteads, each of which was the particular property of a Patrol of Scouts. Each Patrol had to devote a certain amount of time to work on the main farm, thus learning in a practical manner the methods of stock-keeping, market gardening, dairy farming, poultry-keeping and general farm management.

In addition to this each Patrol managed one of the small homesteads, being entirely responsible for its upkeep, and selling the produce to the main farm at current market prices.

Thus it behoved each member of the Patrol to do everything in his power to bring about success for his Patrol, since there was a keen spirit of emulation among them.

Under Mr. Mealing, the first Principal, with his assistant, Mr. Poe, who later succeeded him, every side of farming and its business management was taught, and the whole work of the place, including the cooking and housework, was carried out by the boys themselves.

For over two years the farm flourished and carried on its work. The initial difficulties had been successfully surmounted, and a really bright future seemed assured, when the European war intervened. As in the case of many other such institutions, the dearth alike of students and instructors made it practically impossible to carry on, and the farm was finally closed down in 1917.



HIS MAJESTY THE KING ARRIVING ON THE RALLY GROUND AT WINDSOR ON JULY 4TH, 1911

On his left is the Duke of Connaught.



A CORNER OF THE BIRMINGHAM SCOUTCRAFT EXHIBITION IN 1913

The majority of the Buckhurst Scouts went Overseas, as had been anticipated. Not, as they had hoped, for the peaceful ploughing of some far-away corner of the Empire, but to France and Flanders, Mesopotamia and Gallipoli.

Most of them sacrificed their lives, and if the training in agriculture which they had received at Buckhurst served them no better end than to dig trenches, it is certain that the other side — the character training — stood them in good stead to the end of their journey “and perhaps beyond.”

From those few who survived letters have reached Headquarters from various parts of the world acknowledging the debt which their writers owed to their farm school.

While the Buckhurst Farm Scouts were settling down cheerily to their new life and the Movement generally was forging ahead in the United Kingdom, the Chief Scout departed for a “World Tour” to see the Scouts in the Oversea Dominions.

The training had been taken up enthusiastically in most of the Dominions, under the patronage of the Governors as Chief Scouts. There were, however, many questions to be faced which had not arisen at home, such, for instance, as colour, caste and creed. There was also the problem of how to fit in the Scout training, which appealed so strongly to the boys, with that of the Cadets which was in some cases compulsory.

From New Zealand the Governor-General, Lord Islington, had written in 1911:

“I am satisfied that it would be most desirable and in the interests of the Boy Scout Movement in New Zealand if you could see your way to pay a visit of inspection to them during 1912.

“The Boy Scout Movement, under the new defence Scheme of New Zealand, is having its full entity retained whilst, in a sense, it will be strengthened, in that after the age of fourteen every Boy Scout has to be a senior cadet and go through the prescribed course of military training.

“There is a universal feeling of appreciation for Boy Scouts throughout New Zealand, but I am sure that this would be greatly enhanced if you could come out and stimulate them by a visit.”

From South Africa Lord Gladstone wrote:

“The Boy Scout Movement here is at this moment under review. It has moved forward excellently in many Union centres, but the immediate problem is the relation of the Scout to the Cadet. For example, in Natal all boys in Government schools must be Cadets. A large proportion of Cadets there are also Boy Scouts. In other parts of the Union where cadetship is voluntary there is overlapping and loss in the officering of the two organisations. Lads to a large extent enjoy Scouting rather than the more exacting and formal work of a cadet. There is consequently a complaint that the Cadet Corps are suffering. Up to the present no attempt had been made to bring the two organisations into harmonious relations.

“Therefore until the Government scheme of defence is worked out there are difficulties....You need have no fear that the present position of the Boy Scouts will be compromised. The Movement has taken a strong root and is very popular. I have taken every opportunity of encouraging it and shall continue to do so. Everyone recognises its value, and there is a general wish to take full advantage of it. On the other hand, in Natal particularly, but also in the Transvaal and the Cape Province, the Cadet system is really admirable. I inspected 350 in Grahamstown, and their smartness and efficiency did one’s heart good. And their shooting is first-rate. So it would not be wise to do anything which some might think adverse to their interests.”

It will be realised from this letter that Boy Scouting in South Africa, at any rate, was not all plain sailing; and though Lord Gladstone advocated a “wait-and-see” policy, the Chief realised that a personal visit would be far more satisfactory than correspondence.

He was away for eight months, and on his return issued a brief report on Boy Scouts Overseas, from which I quote, as being an interesting summary of the situation at that date.

“I have just completed an eight months’ tour of inspection among the Boy Scouts in the West Indies, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

“Incidentally also I saw those in the United States, British Columbia, Japan, and China.

“My visit was particularly desirable at this juncture because in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa the Cadet branch of their respective Defence Forces was just then under consideration, and in each the question had arisen as to how far the Scout training could be utilised in this direction. I was invited by the Ministers of Defence and Education in each country to give my views or suggestions on the situation.

#### GENERAL CONDITION

“I found on the whole that the Movement had reached much the same standard in each of these Dominions, though still behind that of Canada as regards numbers and organisation.

“The Movement had originally begun sporadically in a large number of different centres, and systematic organisation had only followed subsequently, and, indeed, was not yet entirely complete. But the training and efficiency was on the whole good. There was generally an attitude of ‘waiting to see’ what would be the new system for Cadet Service before taking further steps in development, since on this point depended the further need of possibilities for the Scout Movement.

#### POSSIBLE USES FOR THE SCOUT MOVEMENT

“It seemed to me that in each Dominion, making due allowances for the difference of local condition, the Scout training could be of real value.

“The Overseas boy is generally more forward and self-reliant for his age than the English boy, and though he does not require the bringing out that is inculcated by Scouting, he is in greater need of some restraining force and sense of duty. This can be supplied through Scouting.

“The direct lines on which Scouting may be of value in the Overseas Dominions appeared to me to be these:

EDUCATION for good citizenship through character training.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARINE SERVICE through Sea Scouting.

PRELIMINARY TRAINING for the Cadet Service in discipline, etc.

EXTINCTION OF RACE FEELING between Boers and British boys in South Africa, French and British Canadians in Canada.

PROMOTION OF IMPERIAL BROTHERHOOD among the rising generation of Overseas.

PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE through the brotherhood of Scouts in all countries.

#### SEA SCOUTS

“The future development of the commercial Navies of the different Overseas Dominions as well as the manning of their warships, now being built, is likely to be a matter of difficulty owing to the want of seamen in the different Colonies. Thus, although the Sea Fisheries of the Australian and New Zealand Coasts are very rich, they are exploited entirely by Japanese and Italian fishermen, and the Whale Fisheries, both there and on the South African coast, are entirely run by Norwegians.

“Boys of the country have no opportunity of hearing the ‘Call of the Sea,’ where there really lies a great opening for them, were they brought in touch with it. A step in this direction can be made through Sea Scouts. The facilities for their organisation and exercise are exceptionally good, and I believe that before long a development will take place in this branch.

CADETS

“In some cases I found that there was an apprehension that the Scouts were in some way rivals to the Cadets, but I endeavoured to show that they were in reality exactly the opposite; they can be of the greatest value to the Cadet Service.

“Although the aim of our Movement is citizenship, it gives at the same time the discipline, the manliness, keenness and sense of duty which form the essential groundwork for training a Cadet.

“In each of the Dominions the local necessity for an efficient Citizen Defence Force is indisputable, however much we may desire universal peace in Europe. This is, of course, largely due to the menace against New Zealand and Australia and the Pacific Islands, of China and Japan now coming into the strategic arena of the Pacific. Also in South Africa the danger of native risings is almost as great as before, though from different causes, viz. the educated native agitators in place of the former war chiefs.

“The efficiency of a Citizen Defence Force lies necessarily in the efficiency of the Cadet Force from which it is recruited, and the basis of efficiency lies, as Lord Kitchener has stated in his memorandum, in the spirit in which the men take the work. This spirit has to be inculcated before the more mechanical drill can be imposed upon the lad; it is not produced by means of drill as seems frequently to be imagined. Thus it is that without introducing actual military instruction in the Scout training I reported that it might be utilised as the practical groundwork on which subsequently to apply military training when the boy becomes a Cadet.

“My reports are now under consideration of the respective Governments, in consultation with the Local Scout Councils.

“In most places I found that there was still a great deal of ignorance among the public and educationalists as to the aims and methods of our Movement, and I therefore gave a number of lectures and addresses on the subject.

WEST INDIES

“As regards the West Indies, although I found only a few Troops on my arrival, a number have since been raised, thanks to the energetic work of Major Fetherstonhaugh, who followed after me on a tour of organisation.

CHINA AND JAPAN

“In China and Japan Scout Associations and Troops with the European boys have made a good start, and have already developed considerably since my visit.

“The Governments in both countries are enquiring into the methods of our training with a view to testing its value for their own education departments.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“At the request of the Headquarters Council of America I visited a number of centres there, and found the Movement flourishing on a large scale the extent of some three hundred thousand boys, with centres well distributed in all the different States.

“One great feature in that country is the liberality with which the patriotic men of the nation contribute to the funds of the Scouts, and they render paid Secretaries available for organising purposes. If the same were the case at home the utility of the Movement would be doubled.

“The Scout displays were got up on very popular lines and attracted great attention, and did much to explain the Movement to the public.

“The general sentiments expressed toward the Boy Scouts in Britain, both by the officials and the boys themselves, were friendly to an enthusiastic degree.

SCOUTMASTERS

“The common want in all the countries visited is that of sufficient good Scoutmasters, but I found that a really sympathetic and earnest endeavour to that end by local authorities can produce most satisfactory results.

“Also, I was glad to come across several instances of ex-Scouts being sufficiently grown up and established in life to take up the work of Scoutmasters.

“If Commissioners and Scoutmasters aim for it, we may hope within the next few years to have a strong contingent of such Scoutmasters coming in which will give the Movement a very substantial lift everywhere.

“I trust that Scoutmasters will impress this point on their boys.

SCOUTS' FARM

“In each of the Dominions great interest was shown in our Scouts' Training Farm in Sussex, and I was assured of their willing help for any boys whom we might send out so trained to begin life Overseas. Most promising openings are offered, and we have the additional advantage of being able, through our Commissioners on the spot, to father lads so sent out.

“Already, at more than one port, it is the custom of the Scout Committee to send a Scoutmaster to meet each ship from home and to get in touch with any Scouts who may be on board, to give them a helping hand on arrival.

PERSONAL

“I cannot describe the kindness and cordiality with which I was received by those responsible for the Movement as well as by the general public wherever I went.

“Our aims command the fullest sympathy and support directly they are known.

“I generally found that where the public was complained of as being apathetic, it was generally due to their ignorance of what Scouting really was; it only needed explanation to have it cordially supported.

“The Press everywhere recognise our aims, and were most helpful in making them known in furtherance of my explanatory lectures. From the proceeds of my lectures in America I was able to defray the expenses of my journey without calling on our own funds at home.

“The proceeds of subsequent lectures which I delivered in New Zealand and Australia were handed to the Local Organisations to help their funds.

“In all the Centres visited, that which particularly struck me was the good spirit which has attracted so many men to devote their time and energies to carrying out the work of organising and training Scouts in all parts of the Empire. Everywhere, too, the Governors and leading representative men have shown a genuine interest and belief in the Movement, and have thus given it a standing in the eyes of the public which has enabled it to accomplish so much in so short a time.

“The enthusiasm and loyalty of all working in the Movement was very remarkable and most encouraging, and I am glad to have had the opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of those who are working so well in the cause, even though my trip had necessarily to be a hurried one and my visits very short.

“It will be interesting to see what decision the Ministers of the various Dominions arrive at as regards utilising the Movement for the purposes suggested.

“If they determine to utilise the Movement officially, they will find a splendid lot of men ready to assist them, and the organisation may develop on to very extended lines.

“If, on the other hand, they prefer not to utilise it, the Movement can still do other valuable work among the boys in the ordinary way, but on a larger scale than before, in the directions above-mentioned, such as education, naval development, brotherhood, and so on.

“Although we have not exactly the same field for work as in the slum cities at home, there is an equally valuable opening in each one of the Overseas Dominions for instilling a better spirit of self-discipline among the boys generally, and also in getting hold of large numbers of them, who are exempt from military training, through living in back-block settlements.

“Judging from letters and reports since received from each of the three Dominions, I am glad to believe that my visit, short though it was, was exceptionally fortunate at this particular juncture, and I hope, therefore, that it may have good results.

ROBERT BADEN-POWELL.”

*September 1912.*

In this report of his eight months' absence the Chief omitted to mention one of the most important and far-reaching events of his world tour.

I refer to his meeting with and subsequent engagement to Miss Olave St. Clair Soames, who had travelled on the *Arcadian* to the West Indies with her father, the Chief Scout being also a passenger.

The wedding took place at Parkstone on the 30th October, 1912, and the news of it was received with some dismay by Boy Scouts, many of whom expressed their fears lest the Chief Scout's new preoccupation should deprive the Scout Movement of some of his interest.

They had, however, reckoned without Lady Baden-Powell, who, far from crippling her husband's life-work, brought to it an extra arm, a strong right hand, and abundance of youthful enthusiasm, keenness, and optimism.

The Scouts organised a penny collection among themselves with which to purchase a wedding present for the Chief, and this took the form of a motor-car with a small figure of a Scout in silver on the bonnet.

All had gone well at home with the Scout Movement during the Chief's absence. In 1913 the Duke of Connaught became the President of the Association on his return from Canada, and on May 7th His Royal Highness attended an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Council, in the course of which he gave an interesting report of the state of Scouting in Canada as he had seen it:

“As Chief Scout of Canada,” said the Duke, “I have seen nearly all the boys of that country, and it may astonish you to hear that there are 30,000 Boy Scouts there now, either serving or who have served. There is not a single place of any size where there are Scouts existing that I have not personally visited, and in many cases I have been able to compliment them on the excellent work that they are doing.

“You all, gentlemen, must be proud to think how good a footing the Boy Scout Movement has got in the Dominion of Canada and how warmly it is thought of and supported by Canadians. But, of course, in Canada, as in England, we have had our depreciators. There were people who did not believe in it; there were people who imagined that there was militarism at the back of it.

“I have done my utmost to point out that if militarism means making boys respectable, respectful, moral, and manly, then there is militarism at the back of it, and a very good thing it is, but that is not my idea of militarism.”

Preparations were now in full swing for the big Exhibition of Scoutcraft which it had been planned to hold in Birmingham, as being not only a great centre of industry, but also accessible generally to Scouts throughout the United Kingdom.

The aim and intention of the Exhibition was set out in a letter issued by the Chief Scout in 1912 in which he said:

“It is in the great industrial centre in the Northern and Midland districts, with its 13,000 millions of people, that special effort is needed to prepare the boy of to-day for being the citizen of to-morrow.

“Our great aim in attracting the boy to learn manly qualities and handicrafts is to give the poorer boy a start in life; it will then be his fault if he fails, and drags out a miserable existence as waste human material, and not, as at present, the fault of those who, though better off, neglect to help their poorer brothers, and allow that material to run waste instead of saving it for the State.”

This Exhibition, which marked a definite step in progress in the Scout Movement, was also something of an eye-opener to the outside public, for it was the first time that the work of boys, done not in school but in their out-of-school or out-of-work hours, had been exhibited on a large scale; and the exhibits were of no mean order, illustrating every branch of Scout handicraft and ingenuity, from model caravans, bridges, engines, and aeroplanes down to the finest needlework, embroidery, book-binding and arts and crafts of every description.

The manufacture of these had given the Scouts, throughout the previous winter, a real incentive to Badge work in the various branches of proficiency; and, in addition to the actual exhibits, the Scouts also illustrated on the spot their method of Proficiency Badge earning — providing shoemakers, signallers, plumbers, clerks, cooks, and ambulance men. Indeed, no branch of the Scout training was omitted from this Exhibition.

The show lasted for a week, and during that period was visited by Their Serene Highnesses Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck, by Prince Arthur of Connaught, who inspected a great Rally on the Saturday afternoon; and by Lord Charles Beresford, who, as Chief Sea Scout, attended an exhibition of Sea Scouting at Edgbaston Reservoir and expressed himself as deeply impressed by the efficiency of the boys; this was the more cheering since the demonstration was carried out under the handicap of very bad weather.

Many other well-known people and a large general public interested themselves in this assemblage of boys, and gained actual experience of what the Scout Movement was doing for the boys and what the boys were doing for themselves.

Five thousand Scouts were in camp during the period of the Exhibition at Perry Hall Park, under the command of Lord Glanusk, Chief Commissioner for Wales.

Of the great rally on the afternoon of July 5th the Editor of *The Scout* wrote:

“The most wonderful sight of my four days’ visit to Birmingham was the great Rally at Perry Hall Park before H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught. Nearly twenty thousand Scouts of all nationalities (including Austrians, Poles, Germans, Spaniards, Italians, French, Dutch, Swedes, Americans, and Belgians) took part, and for three-quarters of an hour they were pouring on to the Rally ground in two streams.

“Several hundred King’s Scouts and Life-savers were drawn up in single formation in front of the main body. It was a very gay sight when all were in position with their Troop and National flags fluttering in the breeze.

“On his arrival H.R.H. Prince Arthur, who was accompanied by the Chief Scout, was received with the Royal Salute. He then inspected the King’s Scouts and Life-savers, who showed a fine example of discipline by standing absolutely motionless at the salute while he rode right through their line. He next rode round the other lines which took some time.

“When the inspection was completed displays of various kinds were given, Scouts from France, China, and Japan taking part, as well as boys from the home country.

“The acrobatic feats of the Bethnel Green Troop gained well-earned rounds of applause. And we must not forget to mention the splendid band of the 11th Sutton Troop and the Scottish pipers who enlivened the proceedings with their tunes.



WAR SERVICES OF THE BOY SCOUTS

1. Haymaking. 2. Helping the Wounded. 3. Rabbit Trapping. 4. Sounding "All Clear." 5. Eggs for the Wounded. 6. Flax Harvesting. 7. Poultry Work. 8. Stretcher Work. 9. Orderly Duty for the King. 10. Waste Paper Collectors.

“The next event was the Great Rally, which was performed without a hitch, the Scouts rushing in as far as the line of King’s Scouts yelling their Patrol cries.

“Lieut.-General Sir Herbert Plumer, who was in command, rode forward to give an order. Immediately there was dead silence.

“Three cheers for the King!” came the command.

“In a moment there arose three such cheers as surely have never been heard before, and all hats went to the top of staves in a twinkling. That was the sight I liked best! H.R.H. Prince Arthur was greeted in the same fashion as he rode off the field.

“Altogether it was a great occasion and one that I shall never forget.”

On the following day, Sunday, a Conference of Scout workers was held at Bingley Hall in the afternoon, attended by no fewer than four hundred and twenty-three enthusiasts; various questions affecting the well-being of the Movement and its development were discussed in a time that was all too short for the numbers that desired to take part. A most impressive service was held in the Cathedral, when the Bishop of Birmingham, in the course of his address, said: “As the Scout Movement spreads through all lands your disciplined life will make for peace and understanding among the nations. You are sure of success if you only remember that God is behind all that you do.”

With this vision of future possibilities and watchword for present use, many of the Commissioners and Scoutmasters left Birmingham on the Monday morning full of inspiration and renewed enthusiasm.

There were still two days before the Exhibition closed, and these were occupied in judging the various entries and presenting the prizes, which was done by the Chief Scout on the final day.

So ended the first great Exhibition and the third great Rally of the Boy Scouts of Great Britain; ended in fact, but still to live as a great memory in the minds of Scoutmasters and Scouts. “Birmingham, 1913” — “Windsor, 1911” — “Crystal Palace, 1909.” These were the three great landmarks with which all future efforts would have to stand comparison; and the advance which had been made since 1909 was very evident at Birmingham. One notable step was the “official” appearance of the Chief Scout in shorts, an act which solved the problem of Commissioners’ uniform for all time.

“I am sure,” wrote the *Gazette* Editor, summing up the Conference, “that notwithstanding the hard work, the expense, and the many inconveniences which our officers and workers must have experienced, they will feel that our Movement has taken a great step forward during the Birmingham week, and, forgetting the wet and the work and the difficulties, they will look back to this great event as a sun-crowned landmark rising about the clouds.”

A message from the King, received after the Rally by the Chief Scout, said:

“I am commanded by the King to congratulate you on the success of the Rally at Birmingham and to thank you and all the Boy Scouts there assembled for your loyal and kind message.

CHARLES FITZMAURICE,  
Equerry in Waiting.”

The Lord Mayor of Birmingham wrote:

“Before you leave Birmingham I should like, on behalf of the citizens, to express their appreciation of the excellent conduct of the Boy Scouts during their stay in the City. Considering the very large numbers attending the Rally and the Exhibition, I think it is noteworthy that no trouble of any kind has occurred. In fact the bearing of the lads is a first-class testimonial to the excellent training they have received under your organisation.”

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Even more encouraging than such official letters were the everyday incidents, of which I quote one, which proved that the Scouting training was having its effect.

A Scout at the Birmingham Exhibition picked up a purse with fifteen sovereigns in it. There was a visiting card inside with the name and address of a lady in Birmingham, so he tramped off to take it back.

When he arrived with it the lady was naturally very pleased at getting it and offered the boy half a crown as a reward for bringing it, who said, "No thank you, Ma'am, I am a Scout!" The lady was at first apparently offended and said, I suppose you think it is not enough," and proceeded to produce another half-crown, but the Boy Scout explained it was all in his day's work, and giving her a salute he went off back to camp.

Before the year ended there was another event in the Scout world. On October 30th — the anniversary of his wedding-day — a son was born to the Chief Scout, and was an occasion of the greatest possible rejoicing throughout the ranks of the Movement. That the man who was doing so much for other people's boys should now be in possession of a boy of his own marked a fitting conclusion to a year of progress; and probably no baby, outside of Royal circles, has ever been met with a warmer welcome from so large a number of people as was "Peter," the junior Chief Scout.

With the Chief Scout for a father, and the Duke of Connaught, President of the Movement, for a god-father, the future promised great things for the youngest member of the Boy Scout Brotherhood.

## CHAPTER VI

(1914-1919)  
THE GREAT WAR

*The Wolf Cub Branch — The Old Scouts Branch — Training Courses for Scoutmasters — The Endowment Fund — The Manchester Conference — Good Turn Day to the Blind — The Horse Guards' Parade Rally — Mobilisation of Scouts — War services — The Patrol System in evidence — Scout V.C.'s — Scouts Defence Corps — Publication of Wolf Cubs Handbook*

"I do not think I am exaggerating when I say that the young boyhood of the country, represented by the Boy Scouts Association, shares the laurels for having Been Prepared with the old and trusted and tried British Army and Navy. For both proved their title to make the claim when the Great War broke upon us like a thief in the night.

"It is no small matter to be proud of that the Association was able within a month of the outbreak of war to give the most intelligent and energetic help in all kinds of service.

"When the boyhood of a nation can give such practical proofs of its honour, straightness and loyalty, there is not much danger of that nation going under, for those boys are in training to render service to their country as leaders in all walks of life in the future.

"I can only say to all sections of the Movement, old Scouts and new Scouts, Scout Officers and Patrol Leaders, go forward, stick it to the end."

D. LLOYD GEORGE, Prime Minister, 1917.

NINETEEN-FOURTEEN

WHO that was alive and enjoying life in 1914 can hear this dare recalled without suffering the most poignant memories?

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For the Scouts, as for every other individual and community, the year brought with it a great upheaval, a tremendous opportunity and a bigger test than had ever been anticipated.

The Movement was now in its seventh year, and was on the verge of the biggest expansion it had yet undergone, when the Great War pulled it up short.

The Chief in his "outlook" in the *Headquarters Gazette* for January, outlined three or four big developments calculated to increase the numbers and efficiency of the Scout Movement on a wide scale.

The first of these was the inauguration of a branch of junior Scout for those little boys who were keen to take up Scouting but were too young to join the Movement proper.

"It will meet the views," said the Chief, "of a large number of Scoutmasters who have been anxious to take boys under eleven years of age; it will open a number of elementary schools to Scouting; it will give a groundwork of Scout knowledge to boys before becoming Scouts such as will help to raise the standard of efficiency while reducing the instructional work of the Scoutmaster. It will bring boys under Scout discipline at an earlier and more receptive age (eight years)."

At the other end of the Movement an "Old Scouts" Branch was to be started with the objects:

1. Of keeping Boy Scouts in touch with one another and with the Movement when they have to leave their Troop to go out and battle with the world.
2. To preserve the ideals of good citizenship which they have been taught as Scouts.
3. To attract to the Movement young men who have not been Scouts and to give them the opportunity for doing a service to their country.

This Old Scouts Branch was combined with an Approved Society under which Scouts could insure and obtain, among their own comrades, the usual benefits of a Friendly Society.

So much for the boys. Then, also, there were to be Training Courses for Scoutmasters, inaugurated by a correspondence course conducted by the Chief in the *Gazette*, and followed by practical training in camps in various districts throughout the country. Trial Training Camps took place in London and other big centres during the summer and proved both popular and helpful.

In order to carry out these, and other schemes for expansion on a sound basis, an Endowment Fund of £250,000 was asked for from the public, as it was felt that the usefulness of the Movement was now becoming widely enough recognised for it to obtain really adequate support for the future.

The Duke of Connaught, as President, issued a personal appeal for funds, in the shape of a letter to the Chief Scout, which was widely circulated. It ran:

MY DEAR BADEN-POWELL,

The Boy Scout Movement has successfully stood the test of five years' trial, and all opinions seem to agree that in proper hands it will achieve a great national work.

But the present good results are largely due to your own untiring efforts and personality, seconded by private friends and voluntary workers.

Under the patronage of the King, who is in hearty sympathy with the Movement, a point has now been reached where, if adequately equipped, its scope may be considerably extended and its administration soundly established, thus creating a powerful influence for good in the formation and development of national character.

But this cannot be achieved without a permanent endowment, and as President of the Boy Scouts I fully recognise the necessity for a public appeal such as you are about to make and for which I venture to foretell the generous and warm-hearted support of our fellow-countrymen.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

ARTHUR, F.M.

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The Fund opened well, thanks mainly to the personal energy of the Chief Scout in “stumping the country” to collect funds. Before launching it to the public generally he had obtained in gifts and promises from his personal friends some £20,000 and, with the assistance of an energetic Committee and Secretary, this had mounted up to £100,000 by the end of July.

The Trustees of the Fund were the Chief Scout, the Hon. H. Lawson (now Lord Burnham), Lord Goschen, and Mr. (now Sir) James Leigh Wood, with Sir Edmond Elles as Hon. Treasurer.

With all these schemes afoot the Chief Scout had his hands full. In addition to his Scout work he was at that time Master of the Mercers’ Company, which involved a considerable amount of work in the City, and when not engaged there or at the Scout Headquarters office he was travelling up and down the country inspecting Scouts and addressing public meeting for the purpose of collecting funds.

At Manchester during the Easter week-end a Conference open to all Scout workers was held, and was a very pronounced success. It was organised by a Committee consisting of Mr. Elwes and Mr. Gaddum (Commissioner for S.E. Lancs.) with the Hon. Roland Philipps (Assistant Commissioner for Wales) as Hon. Secretary.

The Conference was held at the Manchester Grammar School, the High Master, Mr. J. L. Paton, being an enthusiastic believer in the Scout methods. The Chief Scout and Lady Baden-Powell were both present, the Chief summing up at the end of almost every session.

No questions of organisation or policy were discussed, and no resolutions were passed, the intention of the meeting being educative rather than legislative, and mainly with a view to Scout officers coming into closer touch with one another and interchanging ideas which might be helpful to all.

The subjects on the programme for discussion were:

- Scouting and Education.
- Senior Scouts.
- The Patrol System.
- The Religious and Moral basis of the Scout training.
- How to Run a Scouts’ Own.
- The Badge System.
- The Court of Honour.
- Scoutmasters: How to obtain and how to train them.

It was a big programme, but it was carried through with enthusiasm, and the Chief wrote the whole thing down as an “unique and complete success. Unique because in the history of our Movement we have never had so large a deliberative assemblage of officers gathered from all parts of the Kingdom; complete because the tone of the addresses and discussions was of a high standard, breathing cheery keenness, loyalty, and comradeship, and showing a full grasp of the inner meaning and higher aims of Scouting.”

On the Saturday afternoon theories were abandoned in favour of practice, and the members of the Conference, together with a large number of the general public, were shown a model Scout Rally, organised by Captain Wade with the financial assistance of the *Daily Sketch*, and carried out partly by local Troops and partly by “picked” Troops imported from Windermere and London, Skipton, and Scotland, to show their prowess and to mix with their Manchester brother Scouts in camp and games.

A “Scouts’ Own” was held on Sunday afternoon, and the discussions extended over Easter Monday, the Conference breaking up on Tuesday morning.

The proceedings were afterwards issued in pamphlet form for the information and suggestion of those Commissioners and Scoutmasters who had not been present. Thus yet another landmark in the history of Scouting took its place in the memories of those who were there, side by side with Crystal Palace, Windsor, and Birmingham. For many of those present it was the last great Scout gathering they would ever attend; and though no shadow of future war darkened the meeting it seemed to some of those who lived to look back on it that this particular Conference, with its cheery spirit of brotherhood and its

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insistence on the highest aims of the Scout training, was a peculiarly fitting send-off for the great adventure which many of those present were called upon to undergo.

In May 1914 there died a great "boys' man," Sir William Smith, Founder and Head of the Boys' Brigade. Though not actually a member of the Council, he had given the Chief Scout great help and encouragement during the early days of the Scout Movement.

Writing of him in the *Headquarters Gazette* the Chief Scout said:

"William Smith was the first to recognise and to seize the eager spirit of the boy, and to handle it in the right way for leading the lad, through his own inclination, to a sense of better things. He had that confidence in his fellow-men that enabled him to raise an army of willing workers to carry out his instructions. From the smallest beginnings he raised this mighty fabric for good which has spread throughout the world.

"He discovered, by boldly Scouting, the amount of good there is underlying the surface in our manhood as well as among the boys; how men will sacrifice their time and pleasures, will submit themselves to discipline, will face the difficulties of poor support and unresponsive pupils till by faithful service and a persistent pluck they bring their efforts through to a grand successful issue.

"To other Movements coming after his the work is light. His was the spade work, his the groping through the dark tangle — always looking to the light ahead — his was the inspiration which has brought men and movements speeding after him in the glorious work of clearing dark places and opening up the fair ailed for an enlightened rising generation for our race."

In May the Boy Scouts carried out a big united "Good Turn" for Mr. Arthur Pearson's Fund for the Blind as a thankoffering to him for the help which he had given to the Movement in its early and struggling days.

It being against the principles of the Movement to allow Boy Scouts to beg or collect money, the Chief called upon those who were not regularly employed to try to obtain a day's work at an ordinary wage and to give the proceeds to Mr. Arthur Pearson for the Fund.

The idea was taken up with enthusiasm, and some £1200 was earned and handed over. The work carried out by the Scouts on this occasion varied from boot-cleaning and knife-grinding to wheeling out babies and washing dogs for their owners, while those who were employed in regular occupations gave a day's pay. It was a proof of the spirit which existed in the Movement that these boys, many of them exceedingly poor, should cheerily sacrifice a day's earnings for any ulterior cause.

On July 6th the London Scouts had a show of their own, when they rallied to the number of some 11,000 on the Horse Guards' Parade and were reviewed by Her Majesty Queen Alexandra.

The Horse Guards' Parade, the scene of many a picturesque ceremony, was well adapted for the purpose of a big Scout parade, and Queen Alexandra, who was accompanied by her sister, the Dowager Empress of Russia, expressed herself as delighted with all that she saw.

It was the first opportunity that the London Scouts had had of showing their combined strength and efficiency, and they made the most of it.

With Troop Colours gaily flying at the head of each division, they marched on to the parade ground where they were drawn up in a square forty deep. The Chief Scout, with General H. B. Jeffreys, the Commissioner for London, went twice round the ground, first on foot and then on horseback, for a preliminary inspection.

Then the cheers of the crowd announced the arrival of the Queen. Driving slowly round the ground she seemed to miss nothing, however small, and the Chief Scout and General Jeffreys, who accompanied her in the carriage, were kept busy explaining the smallest details of organisation to her.

When the inspection was finished the band and Colours, which had been stationed in the centre of the ground, moved away and all was silent.

At a given signal the great mass of Scouts, forming the far side of the square, charged forward towards the Queen with a roar of Patrol cries which was echoed by all the Troops forming the other sides of the square.

It was a magnificent and moving sight.

Then silence, and to the strains of the National Anthem the Royal Salute was given. Then, as Her Majesty began to drive off, General Jeffreys called for "Hats on Staves and three cheers for Queen Alexandra."

Up went every one of the eleven thousand hats and staves with one accord, and a thunder of cheers arose which went on and on as the queen drove slowly away between the serried ranks of the Scouts and the cheering spectators.

London's great show was over.

"Dear Sir Robert," wrote Sir Dighton Probyn two days later, "I am desired by Queen Alexandra to tell you how pleased the Empress and Her Majesty were to have had the opportunity of seeing and inspecting London Boy Scouts on the Horse Guards' Parade. Their Majesties were delighted with all that they saw, and thought that the arrangements which were made for their reception were excellent. Their Majesties were also much struck with the smartness and discipline of the boys and their steadiness on parade.

"Queen Alexandra will always take the greatest interest in the Boy Scout Movement, the importance of which Her Majesty so greatly appreciates, and she wishes you continued success in carrying on the splendid national work to which you are devoting your life.

"Her Majesty desires me to assure you of her sympathy in your efforts to raise the Endowment Fund, and to send you the enclosed cheque for £100 in support of the appeal which is being made by the Boy Scouts Association to the country.

"Believe me, dear Sir Robert,

"Very truly yours,

D. M. PROBYN, General.

"Comptroller to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra."

The Rally had been a brilliant spectacle, and its organisation reflected the greatest credit on the organising staff, headed by General Jeffreys, the Commissioner, and Mr. Barralet, the Secretary for the London Scouts.

It had given the public, who had hitherto seen the Scouts in small detachments in their own districts, an impression of what the Movement was really doing for the London boy, and in its results it brought in a great increase of interest and appreciation and also of financial help.

The Chief Scout had had an abnormally busy summer, even for one of his energetic habits. In the course of his Endowment Fund appeal he had visited the Scouts and addressed public meetings in such centres as Leeds and Bradford, Manchester and Liverpool, Cardiff and Swansea, and the strain of this, together with his other responsibilities, was beginning to tell on him, and he was looking forward to a holiday abroad with Lady Baden-Powell.

The Scouts everywhere were preparing for a record camping season, and the Sea Scouts were proposing to hold a regatta in the Isle of Wight.

Most of them were actually already in camp on that fateful Bank Holiday of August 1914, which turned their game of Scouting into a matter of such deadly earnest.

Mobilisation was a matter of a few minutes, and the work which they were now called upon to perform had, in many places, already been practised in the form of a Scouting game.

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WORK OF THE SEA SCOUTS IN THE GREAT WAR

1. Signaling. 2. Look-out Duty. 3. Reporting to Station Officer. 4. Challenging a Photographer.  
5. Chauffeur to the Coast-watching Officer. 6. Life Saving.

The Chief Scout issued the following preliminary instructions regarding the work which Scouts might undertake:

MOBILISATION OF BOY SCOUTS

“In this time of national emergency comes the opportunity for the Scouts’ organisation to show that it can be of material service to the country. Just as the boys of Mafeking were utilised to take the lighter work of men in order that these might be released for the more arduous duties of war, so can the Scouts now give valuable assistance to the State at home, and for this their training and organisation has already to a great extent fitted them.

Their duties would be non-military, and would rather come within the scope of police work, and would therefore be carried out under the general direction of the Chief Constable in each county. They would include the following:

- (a) Guarding and patrolling bridges, culverts, telegraph lines, etc., against damage by spies.
- (b) Collecting information as to supplies, transport, etc., available.
- (c) Handing out notices to inhabitants, and other duties connected with billeting, commandeering, warning, etc.
- (d) Carrying out organised relief measures amongst inhabitants.
- (e) Carrying out communications by means of despatch riders, signallers, wireless, etc.
- (f) Helping families of men employed in defence duties, or sick or wounded, etc.
- (g) Establishing first-aid, dressing or nursing stations, refuges, dispensaries, soup-kitchens, etc., in their clubrooms.
- (h) Acting as guides, orderlies, etc.

*Sea Scouts.* Watching estuaries and ports, guiding vessels in unbuoyed channels, or showing lights to friendly vessels, etc., and assisting coastguards.

Their organisation by counties under their Commissioners, and their even distribution in small units under Scoutmasters all over the United Kingdom, render mobilisation easy and put the Scouts at once on the scene of their operations.

With their ability to rig their own shelters, to cook their own food, and to regulate their own roster of duties in their Patrols, the Scouts are already organised in the best practical units for such duties.

It is assumed that they will be excused from school attendance by the Educational Committees and from work by their employers.

The above list does not exhaust all the duties which they might undertake, it merely gives an outline which Commissioners can no doubt elaborate to suit the local requirements and conditions in their respective areas, after consultation with their Chief Constables and Defence authorities.

I am confident of one thing, and that is that all ranks will pull together with the greatest cordiality on this unique occasion for doing a valuable work for our King and country.”

An abbreviated form of the foregoing instructions had previously been communicated by telegram to the County Commissioners and Secretaries, who had immediately put the services of the Scouts at the disposal of the authorities.

The civil and military authorities on their part lost no time in making use of such services.

It was the rapidity of the Scouts’ mobilisation which astonished everyone.

Before the Territorials could be mobilised — within the first hours of the outbreak of the war — Boy Scouts were out guarding telephone wires and railway bridges, and they carried out their self-imposed task until men became available.

The Chief Engineer to the Post Office supplied Scout Headquarters with the secret maps showing where the great service telephones were laid. It was a great relief to this much-harassed official when he was informed a few hours later that 5000 Boy Scouts had been distributed as watchmen along his lines.

Major de Roemer, at that time County Secretary for Sussex, writes:

“On August 2nd I rushed about in my car, interviewed the Chief Constables of East and West Sussex, and had the railway lines between Hayward’s Heath and Newhaven allocated to us, to guard against German spies blowing up railway bridges, etc. Within twelve hours we had 500 Scouts on the line, and within thirty-six hours 1500 were in position. The Scouts were very energetic, and in one case rushed a protesting entomologist off to the nearest police station — he was removing a chrysalis or some other harmless affair from the brickwork under a railway bridge.

“My activities were then brought to an abrupt end, as on my return home on August 4th I found the mobilisation telegram, ‘Join at once,’ which caused me to turn to the doubtless more important work of counting blankets and smelling meat.”

From the War Office came hourly demands for Scouts to act as messengers, orderlies, and despatch runners.

The following report from the Kent County Commissioner, a fortnight after mobilisation, was typical of many others:

“The telegram from London Headquarters to County Headquarters set the whole Kent machinery in motion.

“I think it inadvisable to tell in details what the Scouts have been doing...but they have watched all main telegraph and telephone lines which pass through Kent from London to Paris and Brussels, they have watched many bridges, culverts, tunnels, etc. They have stimulated recruiting for the Army, hunted out Germans, manned several coastguard stations, accounted for a good many spies; in one case they reported an aeroplane to a fort and had it stopped. They have done, are doing, and will continue to do many other useful things for the country, and consider themselves just as much on active (non-military) service as the armed forces. It is gratifying to add that they have won golden opinions from all with whom they have come in contact.”

From Lord Kitchener had come the first request that Scouts should be placed on the coast to carry out the work of coastguardsmen who were thus withdrawn for service afloat.

This service was one which the Sea Scouts, by nature of their training, were singularly fitted, and they had in many cases carried out as a practice game the work they now undertook in serious earnest.

The area covered by the Sea Scout Patrols ranged from John o’Groats in Scotland to Land’s End in Cornwall, and the system was later extended to cover naval bases, wireless and air stations.

The Chief Scout’s letter to the boys on taking up this duty gave them the required direction and inspiration:

“Scouts,” he wrote, “The Admiralty has shown that the King’s Navy believes in the Boy Scouts, since it has asked for and made use of your services as Coastguards during the war. It is up to you to show that you can carry out this very important duty.

“Remember that, as we are a non-military body and do not carry arms, you are being employed not for fighting but for the special duty of Scouting, that is, of keeping a good look out and of quickly reporting anything suspicious that you see. The enemy are eager, by means of spies ashore or of Scouting vessels, to examine our coasts and to do some damage when least expected.

“You have already made a good name for yourselves with the Coastguard officers. I want you to show them that in addition to your smartness on duty and your obedience to your Patrol Leader you can also keep yourselves and your camp as spick and span as any man-of-war’s men could do.

“When off duty help the coastguards and their wives in any way that you can. Remember to do your ‘good turn’ every day. One way of doing this is to work in the gardens or allotments of those Coastguards who have been called away to sea and whose places you have taken. Keep a good look out. Show that you are not little boys playing at coastguarding, but that you can really do your bit to help our Royal Navy in their big task for the defence of our country until we have brought the war to a successful finish, even if it lasts a year or more.

“Stick to it. Play the game for your country and not for yourselves, and at all times Be Prepared!

ROBERT BADEN-POWELL.

“Patrol Leaders — I want you to read the above to your Scouts on parade; keep it by you, and remind them from time to time of what I have said.”

The Sea Scout Troops and Patrols were mobilised on August 5th for their coast-watching service and they were not demobilised until March 7th, 1920.

It was no doubt the biggest and most important piece of service which the Movement undertook. About 32,000 Scouts altogether passed through the coast-watching service, the number actually on duty simultaneously being from 1500 to 2000.

The service was carried out under the orders of the Admiral Commanding Coastguards and Reserves, and each of the four Admirals who successively held this appointment expressed himself as highly satisfied with the work which was being carried out.

The Admiralty made an allowance to Headquarters at a rate of 10s. per Scout per week, 7s. 6d. of which was paid over to the Scout in lieu of rations and the remaining 2s. 6d. retained by Headquarters for administrative purposes. As the war dragged on its weary course and the cost of living went up, this allowance was gradually increased until it reached the sum of 21s. per Scout per week.

Commander Hordern, Headquarters Commissioner for Sea Scouts, was responsible for the organisation and administration of this important service at Scout Headquarters; and when he went away on service it was carried out on the lines he had laid down by Mr. W. R. Stanton, Sea Scout Secretary, who was subsequently granted the rank of Hon. Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Reserve.

The work entailed the adequate housing of the Scouts. Tents were utilised in the summer months, but for winter accommodation huts had to be built where coastguard cottages were not available. Then the boys had to be kept supplied by Headquarters with adequate uniform, oilskins, and sou'-westers. Their transport and allocation to different stations had to be arranged. And they needed a certain amount of “mothering,” for many of these boys had never been so far from home before.

In all this work Headquarters was helped most adequately by a number of Scout Commissioners who voluntarily undertook the duty of “Coast-watching Commissioners,” and took over the general supervision of the coast-watching boys within their area, reporting their needs to Headquarters and promulgating to the boys the instructions of the Coastguard Admiral transmitted through Headquarters.

An “On War Service” Badge was issued by the instructions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the Coast-watching Commissioners in 1915.

Thus did men who were too old or otherwise ineligible for military service perform a valuable duty to their country in making it possible for those others (also ineligible by reason of their youth) to “do their bit” for their country until the time came when they could “join up” with their older brothers in the Army or Navy.

The spirit of the Coast-watching Commissioners was only typical of the spirit of the whole country at the beginning of the war; but as the years went by and war became not an event by a gruesome routine, the ordinary condition of existence, it required more than enthusiasm to continue to carry out this onerous duty. That it was carried out for the whole period of the war, to the entire satisfaction of the authorities, and without serious criticism or serious mishap, was largely due to the energy of these Commissioners.

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In December 1918 the King inspected a representative Patrol of Coast-watching Scouts at Buckingham Palace and expressed his grateful appreciation of the “excellent work they had performed”; and on July 19th, 1919, a contingent of Coast-watching Scouts was, at the special request of the Admiralty, included in the Victory March through London — the only juvenile organisation represented on that occasion.

To return, however, to 1914 and the early days of the war, the Coast-watching Scouts did not have long to wait for their “baptism of fire.” In the bombardment of Scarborough in December 1914, Scout Taylor, who was on coastguard duty, lost his life in the shelling, while at Whitby, King’s Scout Miller, who was on duty as orderly to the Chief Coastguard, lost a leg through a shell-burst. He sent a message to the Chief Scout in reply to enquiries for news saying that he wished to send his greetings and was still trying to keep smiling.

The war work of the Scouts at home, as well as on service, was considered worthy of being written up in a special number of *The Times History of the War*, as well as in other War Histories, and volumes could be filled on this subject alone.

But since a great part of this service was really, on a slightly more organised scale, very much the same as that which was being performed daily by every individual Britisher, I am not going into it here in any detail, except where it was directly undertaken at the request of some national organisation requiring the immediate services of an organised reliable group.

At the Admiralty, War Office, and Ministry of Munitions, as well as most of the other Government departments, Scouts were taken on in large numbers as messengers, orderlies, despatch riders and motorists, and throughout the country they were similarly employed by the police and municipal authorities.

In the Recruiting campaign which succeeded the outbreak of war they were largely employed, and for their work in this connection received the personal thanks of the Secretary of State for War.

So great was the demand upon their services during the first chaotic months of war that Headquarters found it necessary to organise a scheme for providing a small sum in lieu of rations for those boys definitely employed on Government work. For this purpose a “Public Services” Fund of £10,000 was borrowed from the Trustees of the newly raised Endowment Fund. This amount was repaid to the Endowment Fund when the Treasury refunded the greater portion of the money expended by the Association.

Apart from their more “official” duties a large amount of voluntary public service was carried out in such directions as relay dispatch riding in connection with Emergency Committees, helping at hospitals, the collection of eggs and other comforts for the wounded, the growing of vegetables for the Fleet, and such collections as waste paper, horse-chestnuts, sphagnum moss, etc., as these various requirements were made known.

In Belfast the Scouts, by the systematic collection and sale of old bottles, raised the creditable sum of £750 for the provision of a Recreation Hut for soldiers at the Front. Four other Recreation Huts and seven motor ambulances were also provided in the same way by work on the part of the Scouts, no begging or “Flag Day” methods being allowed in the Movement.

Of the work of one of these motor ambulances, provided and manned by Scouts, Colonel H. S. Roch, R.A.M.C., wrote in 1916:

“I should like to take this opportunity of telling you what excellent work the Boy Scouts car and its team did in the troublous times round Ypres in April and May when it took its full share of the trying and dangerous work of getting the wounded away every night under considerable shell-fire.

“Sergeant Hodson himself is one of the most energetic, resourceful and helpful N.C.O.’s out here. If he is a typical product of the Boy Scout training, your organisation has done much for the future of the nation.”

Among many other departments utilising them, the National Service Ministry called for the services of the Scouts for work on the land, and this duty was carried out on a large scale by means of standing camps in localities where such help was chiefly needed.

In the spring of 1918 a hundred Scouts from East London travelled to Peterborough for the purpose of weeding the Government flax crop. They were asked for as being considered "disciplined and reliable," and the work was carried out to the entire satisfaction of the authorities concerned.

Boy Scouts subsequently harvested the flax, not only in Peterborough and the north, but in Somerset and other parts of the country. Flax gathering is a particularly strenuous and ticklish job, each plant having to be dealt with separately.

A piece of war work performed by Boy Scouts which will stand out for ever in the memories of those who were in London during the air raids of 1917-18 was their employment as buglers to sound "All Clear" after the Zeppelins and enemy aircraft had turned again for home. As certainly as sunshine follows rain, the sinister "Take Cover" which aroused Londoners from their sleep and sent them to their cellar steps, was followed by the cheerful "All Clear" of the Scout bugler.

An interesting sidelight on another branch of Scout war service is given by Chaliapin, the famous singer, in his "Recollections" published in 1928. Describing his visit to England at the beginning of the war he says:

"I was much struck by the good work done by the Boy Scouts at Newhaven, London and Glasgow. The boys came to every car of the trains to offer assistance to foreign travellers. The attention they paid to one Jewish family was quite touching. They amused the children, who were in tears, reassured the distracted parents, joked and laughed with them, looked after their baggage, and did it all so adroitly and with so much humanity that it drew tears of admiration to my eyes.

"I felt again how many varied misfortunes war brings with it, and reflected once more what a wonderful nation the English are."

The situation at Scout Headquarters during the early days of the war was none too easy, for not only were requests for the services of the Scouts coming in hourly, but the Headquarters staff, who would normally have dealt with such matters, for the most part, hurrying away to "join up."

Colonel Ulick de Burgh was recalled to his regiment; Major Ewen Cameron and Captain A. G. Wade, joint secretaries, took their departure to Lovat's Scouts and the Argylls respectively; Eric Walker, the Chief Scout's Secretary, joined the Flying Corps; and every other able-bodied man on the Headquarters staff, together with the Organising Secretaries for Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and the North of England, joined the Forces within the first few weeks of war.

Emergency hands were called in to carry on the work.

Mr. C. C. Branch took over the onerous duties of Commissioner in Charge of Headquarters, assisted later by Mr. Percy Armytage. Mr. C. H. West was appointed Deputy Secretary.

I took Mr. Walker's place with the Chief Scout, and also took over, under Sir Edmond Elles, the work of settling up the affairs of the Endowment Fund and closing down the appeal which on the outbreak of war was in full swing.

It was a very "scratch" staff that was left to carry on at a moment when the Chief would have been glad of the services of his most experienced assistants, but all pulled together with a will to carry the work through, and complaints were few.

The same difficulty applied in the local branches of the Movement. Just as the demand was made for extra work on the part of the Troops, the Scoutmasters were departing one by one to take up the more urgent service for their country.

Thus the work of carrying on the Troops fell largely on the Patrol Leaders.

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It was here that the efficacy of the “Patrol System” — the system on which the whole Scout training was based — was proved. In his original handbook *Scouting for Boys* the Chief Scout had written the following note to instructors:

“In all cases I would strongly recommend the Patrol System, that is small permanent groups, each under responsible charge of a leading boy, as a great step to success.”

Herein lay the difference between Scouting and all other organisations for boys. The unit was the Patrol, and so long as the Patrol Leader was there work could continue, either in the presence of the Scoutmaster or — almost equally well — in his absence.

Lost indeed though the Troops felt without their Scoutmasters, they were not automatically closed down; very few Troops there were which were not able to go ahead, and in addition to their ordinary work to carry out the various war services which were demanded of them.

In many cases ladies stepped into the breach; and here again the Patrol System and the Court of Honour made it easy for a lady to take charge of a Troop of Scouts, to accept responsibility, and give it a “standing” in the eyes of the parents, without actually having to parade with the Troop on public occasions. Patrol Leaders, in many cases, even took their Scouts to camp without the assistance of a Scoutmaster.

The responsibility thus given to boys to do the work of men was never abused. Where a Troop was left entirely in the charge of its Patrol Leaders it was usually found possible for some neighbouring Scoutmaster to keep a kindly eye upon its well-being, relying upon the actual work being carried out by the Leaders and the Court of Honour.

It was rather a curious fact that this Patrol System, upon which the whole Movement was based, had not been utilised to its full extent by Scoutmasters in the early days of the Movement. Many of them, having come from Brigade work of other boys’ Movements, had a tendency to do too much themselves and to expect too little from their leaders; and during the year or two before the war those who had studied the Chief Scout’s ideas most fully and appreciated his reasons for making Scouting different from other recognised forms of training, had been insisting that this system of work by Patrols had not yet been given a fair trial.

In the *Headquarters Gazette* in 1913 Captain Wade published an article entitled “A Plea for the Patrol System,” and the following year Captain the Hon. Roland Philipps brought out his *Patrol System*, a book which has proved of the utmost value to the Movement. It expounded no new theories of training, but concentrated entirely upon this principle, laid down by the Chief, that the Patrol, and not the Troop, should be the unit whether for work or games, and gave suggestions as to how this theory might be put into practice.

To many Scoutmasters who had been working on different lines the idea was somewhat revolutionary; but with characteristic spirit of loyalty they determined to try it out and to put full responsibility upon their Leaders. It was entirely thanks to this that the Scout Movement not only managed to keep going at full strength during the war, but actually to increase in membership at a steady rate and to carry out good service for the country.

The Chief Scout’s CALL TO PATROL LEADERS in 1916 emphasised this:

“TO PATROL LEADERS. The war has brought you Patrol Leaders your chance, and in many cases you have taken it. Scoutmasters have been called away from their Troops to take service for the country, and in very many cases the Patrol Leaders have formed themselves into a Court of Honour and have run the Troop in the absence of the Scoutmaster, and in almost ever Troop Patrol Leaders have taken closer command of their Patrols and have made them efficient, and have carried out public services with their Scouts in a most creditable way.



FOUR FAMOUS SCOUTS WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR

“I have always considered the Patrol as the important body in the Scout Movement, but since the war it has shown more than ever that it is the unit that can be relied upon to do its duty well.

“I want you Patrol Leaders to go on and train your Patrols in future entirely yourselves, because it is possible for you to get hold of each boy in your Patrol and make a good fellow of him. It is no use having one or two brilliant boys and the rest no good at all. You should try to make them all fairly good. The most important step to this is your own example, because what you do yourself your Scouts will do also. Show them that you can obey orders whether they are given by word of mouth or merely rules that are printed or written, and that you carry them out whether your Scoutmaster is present or not. Show them that you can get badges for proficiency in different handicrafts and your boys will with very little persuasion follow your lead.

“But remember that you must give them the lead and not the push. That is the difference between our Army and the German Army. In the German Army the officers say, ‘Go on, men,’ and shove them on into the fight. In our Army the officers say, ‘Come on, men,’ and lead them to victory. And you should do the same in training your Scouts.

“And to the Scouts I would say, You have seen in this war how victories are won — that is by men obeying and following the lead of their officers, even though in doing so many of them go to their death. But they do it because they know that if all obey and carry out the work given them like one man their side will win. It is the same in Scouting. Obey your Patrol Leader, follow his lead, and your Patrol will rise to be second to none.”

In response to the urgent wish of Commissioners, Scoutmasters and Scouts to serve their country together and under their own Chief, the Chief Scout had offered to Lord Kitchener a special Scouts Battalion.

This offer, after some consideration, was not accepted, and the members of the Scout Brotherhood were instructed to join existing regiments. A great number of Scouts did manage to get together and to continue their friendships in Kitchener’s Army.

In refusing the offer of a special Scout Battalion, the authorities did a very good thing for the Movement and, I venture to say, for the Army, because the spirit of Scouting was thereby scattered throughout the length and breadth of Kitchener’s Army instead of being concentrated in one mass; and many were the friendships formed between Scout enthusiasts, meeting for the first time in France, and many also the converts made to Scouting among men who had hitherto been ignorant of its aims, methods and ideals.

Everything possible was done to keep Scouts on service in touch with each other and with the Movement at home. In this the Chief was greatly helped by the Editor of the *Gazette*, who organised a fund for sending “The Green ’Un” free to Scouts on service.

In the Battle Cruiser Fleet Captain B. S. Thesiger organised gatherings of Old Scouts. The following message is typical of many which reached the Chief:

“A foregathering of 140 Old Scouts of the Battle-Cruiser Fleet send their loyal greeting to the Chief Scout and take this opportunity to place on record their determination to remain true Scouts and their intention of helping on the Scout Movement to the best of their ability in whatever part of the world they may happen to be serving.”

Just before the Battle of Jutland another great gathering was held of Scouts in the Battle-Cruiser Fleet, and of the 230 Old Scouts who foregathered there, 80 went under in the Jutland Battle.

Amongst the prisoners interned at Groningen a keen Scout Society was also started.

At Christmas 1917 the Chief sent a chocolate or cigarette box to every Scout on service who could be traced, and he never lost an opportunity of writing to those old Scouts whose names appeared in the *Gazette* as having earned distinctions.

Although the training had never been directed to military ends there is no doubt that, in its work of turning out good citizens, the Movement had also turned out citizens well adapted for making good soldiers when the need arose.

Among the hundred and fifty thousand ex-Scouts who served in His Majesty's Forces during the Great War — ten thousand of whom never returned — the proportion of awards, mentions and promotions was very high. Commanding officers were loud in their praises of recruits who had a preliminary Boy Scout training, and Scouts very seldom remained long in the ranks.

Eleven Victoria Crosses headed a very long list of awards and distinctions, and these eleven are quoted in full in the words of the official *Gazette* as worthy of perpetual record:

2ND LIEUT. GEORGE EDWARD CATES, LATE RIFLE BRIGADE.

For most conspicuous bravery and self-sacrifice.

When engaged with some other men in deepening a captured trench this officer struck with his spade a buried bomb, which immediately started to burn.

2nd Lieut. Cates, in order to save the lives of his comrades, placed his foot on the bomb, which immediately exploded.

He showed the most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in performing the act which cost him his life, but saved the lives of others.

2ND LIEUT. JOHN MANSON CRAIG, ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.

For most conspicuous bravery on the occasion of an advanced post being rushed by a large party of the enemy. This officer immediately organised a rescue party, and the enemy was tracked over broken country back to the trenches. 2nd Lieut. Craig then set his party to work removing the dead and wounded.

During the course of this operation his men came under heavy rifle and machine-gun fire. An N.C.O. was wounded, and the medical officer who went out to his aid was also severely wounded. 2nd Lieut. Craig at once went to their assistance and succeeded in taking the N.C.O. under cover. He then returned for the medical officer, and whilst taking him to shelter was himself wounded.

Nevertheless, by great perseverance, he succeeded in rescuing him also.

As the enemy continued a heavy fire and in addition turned on shrapnel and high explosives, 2nd Lieut. Craig scooped cover for the wounded and thus was the means of saving their lives.

These latter acts of bravery occurred in broad daylight, under full observation of the enemy and within close range.

On three previous occasions this officer has behaved in a conspicuously brave manner and has shown an exceptional example of courage and resource.

NO. 511828 PRIVATE ROBERT EDWARD CRUICKSHANK, LONDON REGT. (HARRINGAY).

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in attack. The platoon to which Private Cruickshank belonged came under very heavy rifle and machine-gun fire at short range, and was led down a steep bank into a wadi, most of the men being hit before they reached the bottom.

Immediately after reaching the bottom of the wadi the officer in command was shot dead, and the sergeant who then took over command sent a runner back to Company Headquarters asking for support, but was mortally wounded almost immediately after. The corporal having in the meantime been killed, the only remaining N.C.O. (a lance-corporal), believing the first messenger to have been killed, called for a volunteer to take a second message back. Private Cruickshank immediately responded and rushed up

the slope, but was hit and rolled back into the wadi bottom. He again rose and rushed up the slope, but, being again wounded, rolled back into the wadi. After his wounds had been dressed, he rushed a third time up the slope and again fell badly wounded. Being now unable to stand he rolled himself back amid a hail of bullets.

His wounds were now of such a nature as to preclude him making any further attempt, and he lay all day in a dangerous position, being sniped at and again wounded where he lay. He displayed the utmost valour and endurance, and was cheerful and uncomplaining throughout.

LIEUT. JOHN HENRY STEPHEN DIMMER, 2ND BN. THE KING'S ROYAL RIFLE CORPS.

This officer served his machine-gun during the attack on the 12th November at Klein Zillebeke until he had been shot five times — three times by shrapnel and twice by bullets — and continued at his post until his gun was destroyed.

T. LIEUT. DONALD JOHN DEAN, 8TH BN. ROYAL WEST KENT REGT.

For most conspicuous bravery, skilful command and devotion to duty during the period 24th to 26th September, 1918, when holding, with his platoon, an advanced post established in a newly captured enemy trench north-west of Lens.

The left flank of the position was insecure, and the post, when taken over on the night of the 24th September was ill-prepared for defence. Shortly after the post was occupied the enemy attempted, without success, to recapture it. Under heavy machine-gun fire consolidation was continued, and shortly after midnight another determined enemy attack was driven off. Throughout the night Lieut. Dean worked unceasingly with his men, and about 6 a.m. on the 25th September a resolute enemy attack, supported by heavy shell and trench-mortar fire, developed. Again, owing to the masterly handling of his command, Lieut. Dean repulsed the attack, causing heavy enemy casualties.

Throughout the 25th and the night of the 25-26th September consolidation was continued under heavy fire, which culminated in intense artillery fire on the morning of the 26th, when the enemy again attacked and was finally repulsed with loss.

Five times in all (thrice heavily) was this post attacked, and on each occasion the attack was driven back.

Throughout the period Lieut. Dean inspired his command with his own contempt of danger, and all fought with the greatest bravery.

He set an example of valour, leadership and devotion to duty of the very highest order.

2ND LIEUT. REGINALD LEONARD HAINE, H.A.C.

For most conspicuous bravery and determination when our troops, occupying a pronounced salient, were repeatedly counter-attacked. There was an ever-present danger that if the enemy succeeded the garrison of the salient would be surrounded.

2nd Lieut. Haine organised and led with the utmost gallantry six bombing attacks against a strong point which dangerously threatened our communication, capturing the position, together with 50 prisoners and two machine-guns.

The enemy then counter-attacked with a battalion of the Guard, succeeded in regaining his position, and the situation appeared critical.

2nd Lieut. Haine at once formed a block in his trench, and for the whole of the following night maintained his position against repeated determined attacks.

Reorganising his men on the following morning, he again attacked and captured the strong point, pressing the enemy back for several hundred yards, and thus relieving the situation.

Throughout these operations this officer's superb courage, quick decision and sound judgement were beyond praise, and it was his splendid personal example which inspired his men to continue their efforts during more than thirty hours of continuous fighting.

TEMP. 2ND LIEUT. RUPERT PRICE HALLOWES, 4TH BN. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN (MIDDLESEX) REGT.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty during the fighting at Hooge between 25th September and 1st October, 1915.

2nd Lieut. Hallows displayed throughout these days the greatest bravery and untiring energy, and set a magnificent example to his men during four heavy and prolonged bombardments. On more than one occasion he climbed up on the parapet, utterly regardless of danger, in order to put fresh heart into his men. He made daring reconnaissances of the German positions in our lines. When the supply of bombs was running short he went back under very heavy shell fire and brought up a fresh supply. Even after he was mortally wounded he continued to cheer those around him and to inspire them with fresh courage.

NO. 15851 PIPER DANIEL LAIDLAW, 7TH BN. THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS.

For most conspicuous bravery prior to an assault on German trenches near Loos and Hill 70 on 25th September, 1915.

During the worst of the bombardment, when the attack was about to commence, Piper Laidlaw, seeing that his company was somewhat shaken from the effects of gas, with absolute coolness and disregard of danger mounted the parapet, marched up and down, and played his company out of the trench. The effect of his splendid example was immediate, and the company dashed out to the assault. Piper Laidlaw continued playing his pipes till he was wounded.

LIEUT. GEORGE BURDON MCKEAN, CANADIAN INFANTRY.

For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty during a raid on the enemy's trenches.

Lieut. McKean's party, which was operating on the right flank, was held up at a block in the communication trench by most intense fire from hand-grenades and machine-guns. This block, which was too close to our trenches to have been engaged by the preliminary bombardment, was well protected by wire and covered by a well-protected machine-gun 30 yards behind it. Realising that if this block were not destroyed the success of the whole operation might be marred, he ran into the open to the right flank of the block, and with utter disregard of danger leaped over the block-head first on top of the enemy. Whilst lying on top of one of the enemy another rushed at him with fixed bayonet; Lieut. McKean shot him through the body and then shot the enemy underneath him, who was struggling violently. This very gallant action enabled this position to be captured. Lieut. McKean's supply of bombs ran out at this time, and he sent back to our front line for a fresh supply. Whilst waiting for them he engaged the enemy single-handed.

When the bombs arrived he fearlessly rushed the second block, killing two of the enemy, captured four others, and drove the remaining garrison, including a hostile machine-gun section, into a dug-out. The dug-out, with its occupants and machine-gun, was destroyed.

This officer's splendid bravery and dash undoubtedly saved many lives, for had not this position been captured the whole of the raiding party would have been exposed to dangerous enfilading fire during the withdrawal. His leadership at all times has been beyond praise.

2ND LIEUT. (A/CAPT.) ALFRED MAURICE TOYE, M.C., MIDDLESEX REGT.

For most conspicuous bravery and fine leadership displayed in extremely critical circumstances.

When the enemy captured a trench at a bridgehead he three times re-established the post, which was eventually recaptured by fresh enemy attacks.

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After ascertaining that his three other posts were cut off, he fought his way through the enemy with one officer and six men of his company.

Finding seventy men of his battalion on his left retiring, he collected them, counter-attacked, and took up a line which he maintained until reinforcements arrived. Without this action the defence of the bridge must have been turned.

In two subsequent operations, when in command of a composite company, he covered the retirement of his battalion with skill and courage.

Later, with a party of Battalion Headquarters, he pressed through the enemy in the village, firing at them in the streets, thus covering the left flank of the battalion retirement. Finally, on a still later occasion, when in command of a mixed force of the brigade, he re-established after hard fighting a line that had been abandoned before his arrival. He was twice wounded within ten days, but remained at duty. His valour and skilful leading throughout this prolonged period of intense operations was most conspicuous.

BOY (1ST CLASS) JOHN TRAVERS CORNWELL, V.C.

Extract from Admiral Beatty's dispatch:

"Boy (1st Class) John Travers Cornwell, of H.M.S. *Chester*, was mortally wounded early in the action. He nevertheless remained standing alone at a most exposed post, quietly awaiting order, till the end of the action, with the gun's crew dead and wounded all around him. His age was under 16½ years. I regret that he has since died, but I recommend his case for special recognition in justice to his memory and as an acknowledgment of the high example set by him."

This last story, of Jack Cornwell, the little South London Boy Scout, is one which will be told to children as long as there are any alive who remember the Battle of Jutland. As a story of simple, selfless heroism it has few to equal it.

In the Scout Movement it was decided to keep alive Cornwell's memory by means of a fund wherewith to provide scholarships and grants for starting promising Boy Scouts in their professions. The tests laid down for Scouts wishing to qualify as "Cornwell" Scouts and thus become eligible for such scholarships included a severe test in physical courage, as well as other proofs of good Scoutcraft.

The Fund reached a sum of £1500.

During the years of the war some thirty Scouts qualified for such scholarships and grants, but in many cases the Fund was not called upon to provide them, since many of the Scouts, after serving in the Army and Navy, made their own way to successful careers.

For those Scouts who would shortly be of an age to join one or other of the Services, the Committee instituted the "Scouts' Defence Corps," an emergency branch of the Movement wherein might be received a certain amount of training in marksmanship and drill, etc., such as was not ordinarily included in the Scouting programme.

This move, which was carried out after careful consideration of all the pros and cons, was hailed by many as a change of policy on the part of the Movement. The anti-militarist party regarded it as a proof that the Scouts had hitherto been sailing under false colours; the Cadet enthusiasts regarded it as a laudable desire to atone for past omissions.

It was neither.

The Chief Scout said with reference to this Scouts' Defence Corps, "It is not intended to form a part of the regular policy of the Movement," and went on to explain that, as a sewing-machine factory had added to its peaceful occupation the manufacture of munitions for war, so the Scouts, as a temporary measure, were to be given the opportunity of becoming capable men for the defence "of their homes against

aggression, of their nation against militarism, and of their principles of Honour and Justice against destruction.”

The Scouts who qualified for the “Scouts’ Defence Corps” were awarded a Red Feather to wear in the side of their Scout hat; and seven thousand of them passed through the Defence training and found it helpful to them on first joining the fighting Services.

The Chief, writing in *The Scout*, said:

“I have received good accounts of the results of the training of the Scouts’ Defence Corps for Army purposes. At one centre the whole detachment of 122 Scouts, after having been trained thoroughly in the campaigning duties of soldiers (in addition, of course, to their Scout training), enlisted in H.M. Service, and as they were already efficient instead of being raw recruits on joining, they have nearly all been promoted. Out of another detachment of twenty which joined the Army, only two remain privates, the rest having been made corporals and sergeants, and six officers; and only yesterday I heard again of twenty-four going from one Troop into the Army, very few of whom are privates now.

“I have no doubt that the same thing is going on all over the country. It is a good proof of the value of our Red Feather Brigade.”

Contrary to a good deal of supposition, the Corps died a natural death as soon as the need for military training subsided.

In the organisation of the Scouts’ Defence Force the Chief was most ably helped by Sir James Leigh Wood.

In those tense days, when the mind of everybody was employed on war and on the making of armies, it would not have been altogether surprising if the peaceful policy of the Scout training had undergone revision, but in his determination to continue as he had begun the Chief was warmly supported by Scout officers on service in every part of the world, who implored him to keep Scouting true to its original principles.

So, in spite of many advances from the War Office and from advocates of compulsory Cadet training, accompanied by tempting offers of capitation grants, the policy of the Movement remained unchanged during five years of war fever.

On Christmas Eve 1914 the Scout Movement suffered its first heavy loss through the death in action of Sir Montagu Cholmeley, County Commissioner for Lincolnshire. One of the keenest and most energetic of all Commissioners, Sir Montagu, just before leaving for the Front, had written to his boys:

“Scouts of Lincolnshire, I have the good fortune to be going to-day where I know you would wish all to be. In saying farewell I leave you to uphold the splendid traditions of the Scouts. Any small services I have rendered you can best repay by responding loyally to your country’s call.”

This was, alas, only the beginning of a series of heavy blows which befell the Movement, through the death of men who, in their Scout work, it would be impossible ever fully to replace.

Of those who had organised the Movement in its early days, Lawrence of Scotland, Craig of Ireland and Oswald Williams of Wales all fell.

Anthony Slingsby, organising Secretary for the North of England (whose famous Troop “The Skipton Bulldogs” had joined up in large numbers with their Scoutmaster), was killed in 1915.

Dr. Lukis of Toynbee Hall, Stern of East London, Holden of Manchester, Maurice Gamon of the “Wellington” Troop, Gerald Legge of Staffordshire, Cobbold of South London, Basil Walker, who had organised the Birmingham Exhibition, these and countless other good Scoutmasters and Commissioners had fallen before the end of the second year of the war.

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When Roland Philipps was killed at Owillers in 1916 the Chief voiced the feeling of the Movement when he wrote that “part of the soul of Scouting had gone.”

In the face of losses such as these it required a good deal of faith and optimism in its leaders for the Scout Movement to carry on with its progressive programme. In the *Gazette* each month the list of those “Called to Higher Service” — a column headed by the simple dot within a circle signalling in Scout language “I have gone home” — grew longer and longer and must have struck despondency into the hearts of its readers had it not been sandwiched between the Chief Scout’s cheery and optimistic “Outlook” ad the editorial notes of faith and good cheer.

These and the stirring reports of pluck and self-sacrifice encouraged those who were left behind to plod along until the end came in 1918.

Throughout the whole period of the war the Chief Scout remained at the helm, directing, initiating, planning new campaigns while seeing that the routine work was properly carried out; paying periodical visits to the Scouts on duty both on the coasts of Scotland and England and also in France, where his appearance in one of the Y.M.C.A. Huts provided and staffed by Scout workers was always received with acclamation.

In 1916, with Lady Baden-Powell, he spent some weeks in France at “The Mercers’ Arms,” a hut provided by the Mercers Company and staffed by Scout workers, and afterwards at the Scouts’ hut at Etaples. At these Huts a large number of Scout workers, both men and women, took their turn of three months’ service in ministering to the comforts of the men passing through the base on their way up or down from the line.

In 1914 the Chief had been busy on a handbook for the guidance of the new young branch of the Movement, the “Wolf Cubs,” and this was completed and published in 1916, when the scheme had been through its experimental stages.

Up to this time the boys from eight to eleven years old had either been debarred altogether from the joys of Scouting or had been admitted, under age and against all rules, to Scout Troops, thereby tending to make the Scouts feel themselves ridiculous.

The Chief Scout recognised that the needs of the boy just emerging from babyhood were different from those of his elder brother, and the Cub training was designed on lines quite separate from those of the Scouts — yet complementary to it.

It is true that the Cub, like the Scout, was given a Law and a Promise, a uniform and badges; but these were quite distinct from those offered to his big brother the Boy Scout proper.

Rudyard Kipling had already shown his approval of the Scouts by writing for them a Scout Patrol song; and in the matter of the Junior Scouts, or Wolf Cubs, his co-operation was once more sought by the Chief Scout.

This was readily afforded, with the result that much of the Cub training, and almost all its games and practices, were based on the “Jungle Books.”

Cubmasters were known as “Akela” or “Old Wolf,” and the Law which the small boy had to learn before joining the Movement was very simple and comprehensive, involving no mental strain.

1. The Cub gives in to the Old Wolf.
2. The Cub does not give in to himself.

His Promise —

“I promise to do my best to be loyal and to do my duty to God and the King, and to keep the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack. And to do a good turn to somebody every day.”

His motto was equally simple, and consisted of the words “Do Your Best,” construed by the Cub as “DYB” from its initial letters.



The Chief Scout's draft of the Wolf Cub Badge and Salute.

In the early organisation of the Wolf Cub branch the Chief Scout was fortunate in getting the services of Miss Vera Barclay, whose knowledge and practical experience of Scout and Cub work, and also of all things literary, made her an invaluable assistant in the working out of the scheme and the provision of preliminary literature. She was Cub Secretary at Headquarters from 1916 to 1920.

The Handbook — published in 1916 — contained the following acknowledgement:

“To Rudyard Kipling, who had done so much to put the right spirit into our rising manhood, I am very grateful for the permission to quote as my text his inimitable *Jungle Book*. My thanks are also due to his publishers, Messrs. Macmillan and Co., Ltd., for their courtesy in allowing these extracts to be made.”

The book itself was unique, in that in place of mere chapters it offered its substance in “bites” to tempt the appetite of the young wolves.

The introduction to the first edition gives the key to the spirit of the book:

“Every boy, like every young wolf, has a hearty appetite. This book is a meal offered by an old Wolf to the young Cubs.

“There is juicy meat in it to be eaten and there are tough bones to be gnawed.

“But if every Cub who devours it will tackle the bone as well as the meat and will eat up the fat with the lean, I hope that he will get food strength as well as some enjoyment out of every bite.”

The Cub, like the Scout, was offered some badges in proficiency for practical knowledge of an elementary kind in a choice of a dozen subjects, including those of signaller, collector, observer, weaver, artist, wood-worker, first-aider, house-orderly, guide, swimmer, team-player and athlete.

Principally, however, his training was to be through games, of the “pretend” and “dress-up” kind dear to the heart of the small child, whose natural love of “showing off” was thus directed into channels through which might be imbibed the elements of good citizenship.

On June 24th, 1916, the first Conference of Cubmasters was held in the Board Room at 116 Victoria Street. About eighty enthusiastic Cubmasters — men and women in about equal numbers — were present, together with the Chief Scout, Lady Baden-Powell, Mr. Everett, Mr. Elwes, and General Black (acting-Commissioner for London in General Jeffreys’ absence on service).

The suggestion put forward by these eighty workers who had already made experiments with the Cub scheme were of great value to the Chief and Headquarters in drawing up permanent Rules and information on the subject.

In December 1916 the first public Demonstration “To inaugurate the Wolf Cub organisation as a Junior Branch of the Boy Scout Movement” was held at the Caxton Hall, which was well filled with interested spectators.

The programme of displays, etc., is reproduced as an historic document.

“Cubbing” thereafter was officially “recognised”; its activities were provided for in the Rules, its equipment added to the Headquarters stock, its officers provided with official warrants and a distinctive uniform.

Extreme youth had come into its own.

The Chief’s Handbook was warmly welcomed and the first edition sold out within a very short time of its appearance. The Movement, thus boldly launched at a period when many might have predicted failure for any new enterprise not directly connected with winning the war, met with phenomenal success, and proved useful in supplying the small boy with a legitimate method of letting off steam at a time when, in the absence of so many grown-up influences, he might have drifted towards hooliganism or so-called “juvenile crime.”

## CHAPTER VII

(1919-1922)  
PEACE

*Conferences at Matlock and Dunblane — The inauguration of Rovers — Publication of “Rovering to Success” — The opening of Gillwell — Opening of Imperial Headquarters at Buckingham Palace Road — The Spread of the Movement in the world — The 1920 International Jamboree — The formation of the International Bureau — The Prince of Wales Appeal Fund — The Posse of Welcome to the Prince of Wales.*

“I have attended many Peace Conferences lately, but I look upon your Jamboree as the most hopeful of them all.”

LORD RIDDELL.

FIVE years went by, and, while the war was taking heavy toll of the older boys, the ranks of the Scout Brotherhood were not depleted, for the small boys were coming along all the time in large numbers, first as Cubs and later as Scouts, to fill up the gaps.

Numerically, therefore, the Movement had not suffered greatly, but in sacrificing so many of its best men and boys it had sustained a grievous loss.

Five years in the life of an organisation may not be very long, but in the life of a boy it is; and those who had left their Scout Troops at the age of seventeen or eighteen, gone on service and survived, had left the greater part of their boyhood behind them when the Armistice came.

Still, many a one talked enthusiastically of the day when he should return to the old Troop, which had never lost touch with him through all the dreary years.

Return — yes — but as what?

Young men in their twenties who had “been through it” at the Front might feel just as keen as ever on Scouting, but they could hardly be grouped with the boys who had come up from the Cub ranks to join the old Troop.

Thus arose the definite need for a scheme for Senior Scouts, an additional branch of which many Scoutmasters had long felt the desirability, but which was now becoming urgently necessary.

During 1917 two great Commissioners’ Conferences were held in the United Kingdom, one at Matlock Bath, the other at Dunblane.

At these gatherings the Commissioners who were carrying on Scouting at home had the opportunity of conferring on this and kindred subjects with other Commissioners who had been on service, and the outcome of such discussions was invariably the same. There was a real and pressing need for some Scout scheme which would deal with the threefold problem:

1. How to retain the older Scouts under good influences.
2. What to do with the many keen Scouts returning from service and anxious to take up work with the old Troop.
3. What to do with boys who “discover” Scouting at the age of sixteen or seventeen, but do not want to join a Troop with much younger boys.

The Chief Scout had long had in mind the idea of extending the Movement to older boys, and various schemes of “Service Scouts,” “Scouts of Commerce,” etc. had been considered and discussed.

Of all these the Rover Movement was the gradual outcome, and on Colonel de Burgh’s return from active service in 1918 he took charge of the scheme at Headquarters, by the Chief’s wish, developing it gradually to meet the expressed wishes of the boys themselves.

At the Commissioners’ Conference held in London in 1918 Colonel de Burgh produced a tiny green booklet containing the barest outline of the scheme which, he explained, was provisional and experimental. Probably a thousand people’s advice had been asked in its compilation. Horace had talked about mountains and labour producing a ridiculous mouse. “Here is our ridiculous mouse,” said the Colonel, waving the little green booklet. “All I ask you is to let it live for six months. Don’t kill it with criticism and don’t criticise it until you have tried it.”

The name “Rover” was suggested by the Chief Scout as a more romantic alternative to “Senior Scout.”

In November 1919 a special “Rover” number of the *Gazette* was issued and the reports therein published were proof enough that the Rover branch had come to stay and that it was developing into a large and important movement, on the lines suggested. “Rovers,” explained the Chief Scout, “are the natural corollary of Wolf Cubs and, as in the latter case, remain part of the Troop. The necessity for them arises in the need for extended and separate training for the older boy in order that he may find fresh activities such as will retain him in the Movement.

“While assisting the Scout in training him for his life’s work, it forms, at the same time, a preparatory training-ground for future Scoutmasters, the Rover being meanwhile utilised as instructor in his selected subjects.

“The voluntary classes thus formed should be of value to the Education authorities under the new Education Bill, and invaluable to the older Scout for the new conditions of life after the war.”

In 1922 the Chief Scout produced *Rovering to Success*, a book which met with a wonderful reception from boys and young men everywhere.

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“A book of Life-Sport for young men,” the Chief called it, and it gave the direct impetus to the Rover training, though not actually written as a technical handbook on the subject. His object in writing the book, as given in the introduction, was to warn young men of the various “rocks” against which they were likely to come up in their voyage through life and to suggest to them, from personal experience, how these might be avoided or overcome.

“It always seems to me,” he wrote in the first chapter, “so odd that when a man dies he takes out with him all the knowledge that he has got in his lifetime whilst sowing his wild oats or winning successes. And he leaves his sons or younger brothers to go through all the work of learning it over again from their own experience. Why can’t he pass it on so that they start with his amount of knowledge to the good to begin with and so get on to a higher stage of efficiency and sense right away?”

The book then proceeds to deal in ordinary everyday language with the “rocks” in question, which he sums up generally as “Horses, wind, women, cuckoos and irreligion.”

“Rovering” is suggested in the final chapter as an activity in which a young man has the opportunity not merely of gaining health and happiness for himself but of performing useful service to his fellow-men and to the community at large.

“Rovers are a brotherhood of the Open Air and of Service. They are Hikers of the Open Road, and Campers of the Woods, able to shift for themselves, but equally able and ready to be of some service to others. They are in point of fact a senior branch of the Boy Scout Movement — young men over seventeen years of age.”

It will be fairly well known to most readers of this history that *Rovering to Success* attained a success which its author had never contemplated for it. The Rovers adopted it unanimously as their Handbook for carrying out the training. Hundreds of young men wrote personally to thank the Chief for the sound and uplifting advice which the book had given them, and requests to translate it into other languages came pouring in.

Before the end of 1922 ten thousand Rover Scouts had been registered in the British Empire, and this number increased within the next five years to thirty thousand.

Colonel de Burgh, who had done such splendid pioneer work for this branch, died in 1922, and was mourned by an enormous circle of friends throughout the Scout Movement and by Rovers everywhere, for, under the Chief himself, he it was who had brought them into existence.

As the Chief wrote in the Annual Report for 1923:

“We have lost dear old de Burgh, but we have gained the Rovers.”

Another very important step in the development of Scouting for Boys which followed close on the heels of the war was the institution of a scheme of training for officers in the Movement.

I have referred further back to the “Scoutmasters’ Training Course” which the Chief had published in 1914, and in the summer immediately preceding the war practical experiments in Scoutmasters’ Training Camps had been carried out in London and other districts on the lines suggested.

During the war the question had been in abeyance, but not forgotten, and though few of those remained who had carried out such experiments, the Chief was anxious to continue the scheme where it had been broken off.

In 1919 Mr. W. F. De Bois Maclaren, Commissioner for Rosneath, Dumbartonshire, paved the way. He bought and presented to the Boy Scouts Association the Gillwell Park estate of fifty-five acres of land and including a manor-house, on the borders of Epping Forest.

The object of his gift was twofold:

1. To provide an Officers' Training Centre where Scoutmasters or those who wished to become Scoutmasters would be trained by competent old Scouts in the formation and training of Troops, practical woodcraft and camping, and the methods of the Boy Scouts generally.
2. To provide Camping sites for Troops and Patrols where facilities for the practice of Scoutcraft and expert advice would be available. This was intended especially for less experienced Troops and for poorer Scouts who would otherwise be unable to study woodcraft and camp lore.

Within easy reach of the East End of London, Gillwell immediately succeeded in its latter object of providing a camping ground easily accessible by the poorest Troops.

Regarding its other purpose, the training of Scout officers, little time was lost in putting into operation the Chief Scout's ideas of training.

Captain Frank Gidney was appointed Camp Chief, and the first training course for Scoutmasters was carried out in September 1919.

The twenty men attending this course came from different parts of the country and were of vastly differing ages and professions. For the time being, however, they sank their identities and became, for purposes of training, Boy Scouts in the 1st Gillwell Park Troop. The Troop was divided into three Patrols, each man taking his turn at being Patrol Leader, Second, lowest Scout, etc., for a day in rotation.

The work carried out consisted of lessons in Troops organisation, campcraft, pioneering, woodcraft, signalling, games, fieldwork, pathfinding, and a study circle. The Chief Scout gave a morning's demonstration on Tracking, and other lectures on specialised subjects were given by Colonel de Burgh, Mr. Everett, Mr. Martin, Mr. Wood, Mr. Nevill and Mr. Hyde (of the Imperial Welfare Society).

This pioneer course marked the beginning of a definite scheme of training, which was gradually extended to include, not only Scoutmasters but District and County Commissioners as well as members of the Headquarters Council, schoolmasters, clergy and educationalists, and these not only from the home country but from overseas and foreign countries as well.

As the numbers increased and it became impossible for Gillwell to deal with them all, branch training-camps were established throughout the Empire, each under the ægis of a "Deputy Camp Chief" trained at Gillwell Park.

In this way the training was kept on a standardised basis and important principles adhered to, and Gillwell became a byword in the Scout Movement, or, as the Chief put it, a short cut to success.

It was said by some that with the coming of Gillwell the Scout Movement went forward on new lines.

I think it was rather that it went back to the lines originally laid down by the Chief Scout, from which Scoutmasters had in some cases, particularly during the war, been tempted to stray.

"At Gillwell they teach you to roll your sleeves up or to cut them off," and by many Scoutmasters this was looked upon as a new cult. But in one of the earliest pictures of Scouts that I know the Chief had drawn the boys with their sleeves rolled up.

"Woodcraft" was by some looked upon also in the light of a new fad designed by Gillwell. But camping and woodcraft ("backwoodsmanship") had always been the Scout programme, though, owing to the many prohibited areas for camps during the war, it had not always been easy to carry it out.

Whether it was due to reaction from war, or the reintroduction into the Movement of some of the simplicity of its earliest day, or the spirit of brotherhood brought about in the trenches I cannot say, but it is certain that at about this period there was a great revival of what has always been known as the Scout spirit. Going through their training together at Gillwell, the leaders of the Movement suddenly discovered that they were not "officers" but brother Scouts, and rather than use their official ranks of Commissioners, Scoutmasters, etc., they gradually simplified their own title under the comprehensive word "Scouters."



THE FIRST TRAINING COURSE AT GILLWELL



GILLWELL PARK. THE ORIGINAL CAMP FIRE CIRCLE

Quasi-military uniforms which had lingered on in the Movement long after they had been declared illegal now seemed, under the chaffing influence of Gillwell, to disappear like snow in the sun; and the simple uniform of the Scout became for all intents and purposes the uniform also of the Scouter.

When Lord Meath, the much-respected Commissioner for Ireland, laid aside his rank and his duties in the House of Lords and joined the Gillwell Park Troop as Scout (or Patrol Leader) Meath, at the age of eighty, there were few Commissioners who could regard themselves as too old or too experienced to learn.

The practical training carried out in the ten days' courses (and in some cases week-end courses) at Gillwell, was further augmented by a theoretical course to be carried out at home during the winter months.

Although the successful candidates received no more tangible reward than a bead on a bootlace, yet such trophies were widely and eagerly sought and none too lightly obtained.

Thus there came about, as I have said, not a new spirit by a revival of Scouting as it had been known in the early struggling days of the Movement. It was the spirit which had moved such men as Roland Philipps, Anthony Slingsby, Maurice Gamon, and host of others to sacrifice first their comforts and luxuries for the sake of their Scouts, and later their lives for the sake of an ideal.

During 1917 and 1918 the Headquarters organisation of the Boy Scouts underwent a form of "spring cleaning" preparatory to the probably developments in the coming days of peace.

The offices in Victoria Street had become too small for their purpose and, with the help of Dr. Acworth, a good friend of the Movement, a new Headquarters office had been built at 25 Buckingham Palace Road. This imposing "Imperial Headquarters" building was opened in May 1917 by the Duke of Connaught, President of the Association, and after the formal opening Mr. Percy Armytage, who had been responsible for the carrying out of the building plans, gave a dinner to the Staff at the Rubens Hotel to celebrate the occasion.

The Headquarters Council and Committee underwent reorganisation at about the same time; experienced Commissioners from different parts of the country were added to the Advisory Council; and the Headquarters Committee was revised and reorganised under Heads of Departments, so that each member of the Committee was directly responsible for a certain branch of the Movement. Finance, Training, Wolf Cubs, Senior Scouts, Publicity, Equipment, etc., each had a Commissioner in charge who directed the work of that particular branch at Headquarters and reported on it to the monthly Committee meeting.

Six Chief Scout's Commissioners were also appointed to assist the Chief in his work of inspecting and encouraging the Scouts about the country.

Mr. Dymoke Green succeeded Mr. West as General Secretary during 1917.

In 1919 the Chief Scout and Lady Baden-Powell visited Canada and the United States, and the Chief was greatly struck by the extent to which Scouting had developed in its popularity and efficiency since his last visit.

Dean Russell, Professor of Education at Columbia University, paid a remarkable tribute to the Movement in an address delivered about that time.

He said:

"Our schools are long on their ability to give information — knowledge which shall be of worth to future citizens — they are competent to go a long way in the matter of stirring the right feeling and developing the right appreciations on the part of the citizen; but they are all too short when it comes to fixing those habits and developing and encouraging activities without which the individual may be a pretty poor and even a very dangerous citizen. It is right that the Scout programme supplements the work of the schools. Its curriculum is adjusted in such a way that the more you study it and the further you go

into it, you who are schoolmasters, the more you must be convinced that there was a discovery made when it was put forth.

“THE PROGRAMME OF SCOUTING IS THE MAN’S JOB CUT DOWN TO THE BOY’S SIZE. It appeals to the boy not merely because he is a boy, but because he is a man in the making. And it is just at this point that the programmes of so many organisations for boys and girls break down. It is an easy thing, as every teacher knows, to appeal to a flitting fancy of the adolescent age. There is a time when the boy is delighted with a tomahawk and feathers and buckskin leggings. And you can put over a very considerable programme based on this kind of symbolism. One of the great Movements for Girls has made, it seems to me, an irretrievable mistake in appealing to just that kind of passing fancy.

“The Scouting programme, however, changes that squarely. It does not ask anything of the boy that the man does not do; but step by step it takes him from the place where he is until he reaches the place where he would be....

*“It is not the curriculum of Scouting that is the most striking factor, but it is the method.*

“And in the method of Scouting, I venture to say, there is something that we have not seen elsewhere in our day. There is nothing comparable to it, so far as I know, that has been turned out in three or four centuries past.

“As a systematic scheme of leading boys to do the right thing and to inculcate right habits it is almost ideal. In the doing two things stand out: the one is that habits are fixed, the other is that it affords an opportunity for initiative, self-control, self-reliance and self-direction. And these two ends are implicit in all our educational efforts.



“There is, of course, nothing better in life than good habits. There is no drag in life compared with a bad habit. To the extent therefore that the Scout Leader can develop right habits he is performing a service of inestimable value, the kind of service that every parent wants, the kind of service to which our boys are headed. At the same time Scouting does not over-emphasize this fixation of habits. I could designate to you and perhaps you will recall spontaneously great schemes which have worked out in such a way as to restrict the freedom of action of the individual by fixing habits which later become a hindrance to the development of a citizen in a free republic....

“In the development of initiative Scouting depends not merely on its programme of work for the boy, but in a marvellous way it also utilises its machinery of administration. In the administrative scheme a splendid opportunity is given to break away from any incrusting method. It comes about in the Patrol and in the Troop. It teaches the boys to work together in teams. It secures co-operative effort for a common end, that is a democratic thing in and of itself.

“My friends, as a schoolmaster I want to tell you that it is my honest conviction that our schools in America, supported by the public for the public good, will not be equal to the task of the next generation unless we incorporate into them as much as is possible of the Scouting spirit and the Scouting method, and in addition to this fill up just as many as possible of the leisure hours of the boy with the out-and-out programme of Scouting.

“We have no examinations in college or school for moral character or patriotism or good citizenship. We have not yet developed an instrument for measuring those habits that make for righteousness in a democratic state. Here is an instrument and a programme which directs itself to that end specifically.

“I am confident therefore that when schoolmasters realise their obligation to the State, when they understand what the public want and must eventually have, when they sound the depths of their own patriotism and realise that upon them more perhaps than upon any other class of American depends the future welfare of this country, they will not leave untested and untried an instrument that makes for so much good.”

In the above address, which I have quoted at some length though not in full, a great American educationalist epitomised so exactly the scheme that the leaders of the Movement in America had utilised the Scout training to good advantage.

Other educationalists also had given their testimony to the value of the training, as had also numerous parents, officers and employers. As in Great Britain, the civic and government authorities had realised through services rendered by the Scouts during the war and during other emergencies that they had at their call an organised and uniformed force of men and boys capable of any duty that might be required of them in the national service.

The following proclamation, issued by the President as a reward and in recognition of their notable service rendered during the Great War was one of which any organisation might have been proud:

“The Boy Scouts of America have rendered notable service to the nation during the world war. They have done effective work in the Liberty Loan and War Savings campaign, in discovering and reporting upon the black walnut supply, in co-operating with the Red Cross and other War Work agencies, in acting as despatch bearers for the Committee on Public Information, and in other important fields. The Boy Scouts have not only demonstrated their worth to the nation but have also materially contributed to a deeper appreciation by the American people of the higher conception of patriotism and good citizenship.

“The Boy Scout Movement should not only be preserved but strengthened. It deserves the support of all public-spirited citizens. The available means for the Boy Scout Movement have thus far sufficed for the organisation and training of only a small proportion of the boys of the country.

“There are approximately 10,000,000 boys in the United States between the ages of ten and twenty-one. Of these only 375,000 are enrolled as members of the Boy Scouts of America.

“America cannot acquit herself commensurately with her power and influence in the great period now facing her and the world unless the boys of America are given better opportunities than heretofore to prepare themselves for the responsibilities of citizenship.

“Every nation depends for its future upon the proper training and development of its youth. The American boy must have the best training and discipline our great democracy can provide if America is to maintain her ideals, her standards and her influence in the world.

“The plan, therefore, for a Boy Scout Week — during which a universal appeal will be made to all Americans to supply the means to put the Boy Scouts of America in a position to carry forward continuously and effectively the splendid work which they are doing for the youth of America — should have the unreserved support of the nation.

“Therefore I, WOODROW WILSON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, do hereby recommend that the period beginning Sunday June 8th to Flag Day, June 14th be observed as Boy Scout Week through the United States for the purpose of strengthening the work of the Boy Scouts of America.

“I earnestly recommend that in every community a Citizens Committee, under the leadership of a National Citizens Committee, be organised to co-operate in carrying out a program for a definite recognition of the effective services rendered by the Boy Scouts of America; for a survey of the facts relating to the boyhood of each community, in order that with the co-operation of churches, schools and other organisations definitely engaged in work for boys, adequate provision may be made for extending the Boy Scout program to a larger proportion of American boyhood.

“The Boy Scout Movement offers unusual opportunity for volunteer service. It needs men to act as Committee men and as leaders of groups of boys. I hope that all who can will enlist for such personal service, enrol as associate members, and give all possible financial assistance to the worthy organisation of American boyhood. Anything that is done to increase the effectiveness of the Boy Scouts of America will be a genuine contribution to the welfare of the nation.

“In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

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“Done this first day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-third.

“(Signed) WOODROW WILSON.

“By the President: ROBERT LANSING,  
Secretary of State.”

The Prince of Wales, in the course of his world tour, visited the United States in 1919, and saw a large number of Scouts wherever he went. On his return he sent to the Chief Scout a message of greeting from the American Scouts which had reached him on board the *Renown*.

In Canada also the Chief Scout found that the Movement had made rapid strides since his last visit, was progressing well, and had also carried out a valuable amount of war work.

I have tried in the foregoing chapters to show how the Boy Scout Movement, originally designed as a national form of training for British boys, had gradually extended not only to every part of the Empire, but also to practically every country in the world.

In spite of the many difficulties incident to the European War it had made steady progress in most countries and only required the conclusion of peace to go ahead by leaps and bounds.

The Overseas Department at Imperial Headquarters organised in the first instance by Colonel H. S. Brownrigg and further developed under his successors Sir George le Hunte and Sir William Ellison Macartney, was a very important branch of the Movement when Sir Alfred Pickford became Overseas Commissioner in 1921.

Mr. C. C. Branch, who had been responsible for the early organisation of the department dealing with Scouts in other countries, was succeeded in 1918 by Mr. Hubert Martin of the Foreign Office, and the erstwhile “Foreign” department became known under a new and happier name — the International Department.

It is outside the scope of this history, dealing as it does mainly with the origin and beginnings of the Movement, to enter into any detail regarding its subsequent organisation in any other than the parent country.

Although, under its Charter, the Boy Scouts Association Incorporated was unable to recognise as members any boys who were not of British birth and parentage, the Chief had always given the greatest encouragement and assistance to the Movement in other countries, and have made many tours of inspection of Scouts in other nations.

Interchange of correspondence and visits between Scouts of different nations had always been one of the ideal aimed at, and as early as 1909 British Scouts had camped abroad and had received return visits from Scouts of other nations.

It was not, however, until 1920, when the Movement had had time to settle down to a peace routine and stock was taken of it, that it was generally realised what an important international factor the Scouts were becoming.

On July 26th, 1916, the Committee of the Council of the Association had resolved “That an Imperial and International Jamboree shall be held in 1918 — provided that the war is over in 1917.” Although this hope did not materialise, the preparations for the Jamboree went quietly on, and it was eventually decided that it should take place in August 1920 in order to allow time for those coming from afar to make their plans.

“It is my hope,” wrote the Chief Scout in his preliminary leaflet, “to bring together representatives of Scouts of the world in a demonstration which after the example of the North American Indians we call a Jamboree. I want to make this Jamboree an unique occasion as one to mark our appreciation of the restoration of peace towards which Scouts, past and present, have done their considerable bit; and also to fulfil the objects given below. I want therefore to invite the support and help of all Commissioners and

Scoutmasters to make the Jamboree a really outstanding success and a distinct step in the history of our Movement.

The objects of the Jamboree are:

1. To stimulate energy among the Troops.
2. To make our aims and methods better understood among educationalists, parents, clergy, and the public.
3. To recruit Scoutmasters and workers.
4. To bring Overseas and foreign Scouts into closer touch with us.
5. To push forward our organisation in the densely populated industrial centres where moral and physical training is so badly needed for the boys.

It is for these objects that I venture to ask for your kind help and support.”

The Chief Scout supplied the inspiration and plans. Major Wade, home from the war, was appointed Organising Secretary, and a body of Directors of Departments formed the Management Committee. These Directors were appointed on the principle that everyone volunteering help was immediately given charge of a department, with more or less a free hand to organise it and appoint his own assistants. The organisation worked smoothly, and the whole thing was a triumph of team work.

The Jamboree took place at Olympia, London, from July 29th to August 7th. Enthusiastic audiences crowded the immense building day after day to see Boy Scouts of all nations giving their performances in the Arena. Every kind of Scout work was demonstrated by Troops specially selected for their smartness and ability, and the final were held throughout the country during the preceding year.

The Duke of Connaught, Princess Mary, and Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll were present at the opening performance, and every day for the duration of the Jamboree distinguished visitors filled the Royal box.

Volumes could be published, and certainly at least one volume has, describing the happenings of that wonderful ten days; but perhaps to most people the most impressive and moving spectacle was the March of the Nations which took place at the beginning of every performance, when the boys of twenty-seven countries, wearing the same uniform, but each with their distinctive flags, and giving their national Scout “calls” proceeded round the Arena to the music of their marching song, “Scouts of all the World,” written for the occasion by Mr. Arthur Poyser.

The performers, i.e. those Troops which had been selected to give special displays in the Arena, were camped in Olympia itself, under their Commandant, Lord Hampton. Six thousand other Scouts were encamped in Richmond Old Deer Park, with the Rev. E. Digby in command. In spite of the worst possible weather on August Bank Holiday, when the camp was temporarily flooded out and the residents of Richmond were called upon to provide temporary hospitality, the whole camp was carried through without mishap and was accounted a triumph of “Scout spirit.”

“In a camp that lasted over a fortnight and at one time had over six thousand Scouts in it,” wrote the Commandant afterwards, “there were only two disciplinary cases to be dealt with, both very minor offences. The real thing of the camp was the true Scout-like spirit shown by all ranks, and the wonderful friendships made. Boys who a fortnight before had never heard of each other parted with dimmed eyes, and though they may never meet again in this world will certainly never forget the brother Scout, often of another race and even colour, whose friendship was so precious for the few days of the Jamboree camp.”

As to the happenings in Olympia itself, it is difficult to say which special side of the Jamboree appealed most strongly to those present.

To some the “Howl of the Wolf Cubs,” carried out daily by five hundred small boys, was the most impressive.

To others the Sunday Service, when the Arch-bishop of York addressed some twelve thousand Scouts and six thousand public at Olympia amidst a silence when the proverbial pin might have been heard to

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drop, was an occasion never to be forgotten. "I can understand," said his Lordship, "the feelings of the Chief Scout as he surveys the wonderful expansion of the Movement which thirteen years ago was hardly thought of. If the Scout spirit were to lay hold of the nations of the world I believe its face would be changed. When you go back to your homes, some of them across the seas, you must labour in harmony with your brother Scouts of all nations for form a band of brothers, all working strenuously with one magnificent goal in view — the peace among the nations of the world. You can and will do it. You are now a great power which can make for that peace. I exhort you to take this as your aim, the bringing into existence of the peace of the world.

"This is my message to you, Boy Scouts. Keep the trust."

Each day in the week which followed the Arch-bishop's words seemed to emphasise their truth. Many different languages were spoken during that week in and around Olympia, but there was one language which stood out and was summed up by the Chief Scout as "Jamboreese," the language of mutual understanding, give and take, and friendly brotherhood which existed between all these many and various nations; a language which would have been impossible of attainment had it not been for the identical "Scout Law" which bound the boys with a common tie, and the uniform which turned them all into brothers, no matter what their race, religion or rank.

The displays in the Arena were illustrative of every branch of Scoutcraft, as carried out not only in England but in other countries, while in the other part of the building Scout handicrafts of every kind were demonstrated on a larger scale and to a wider public than ever before.

The outstanding event of the whole Jamboree, however, and the occasion which had a definite effect on the whole future of the Scout Movement, took place, quite spontaneously and without any sort of previous rehearsal, on the Saturday evening at the final performance.

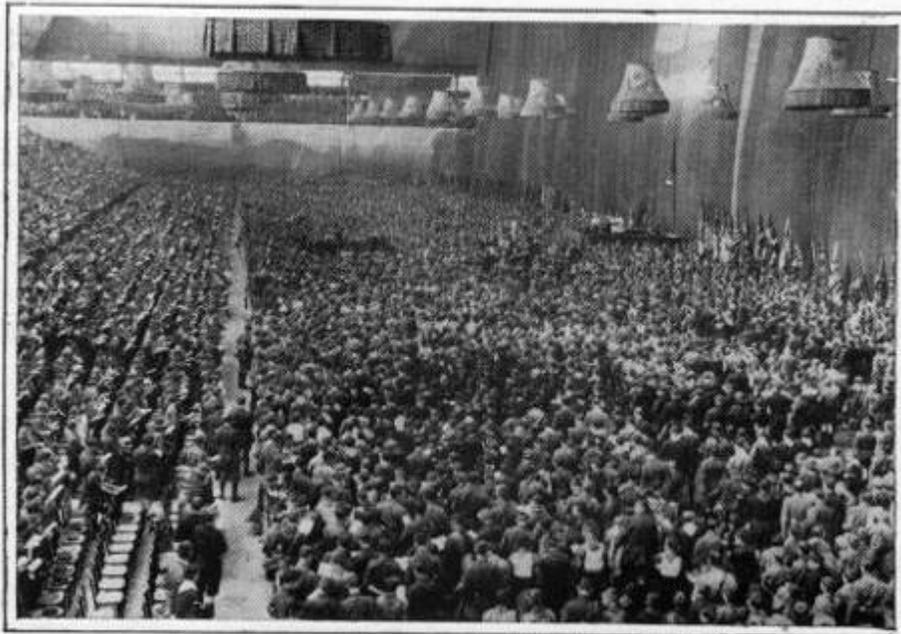
I cannot do better than quote the description of this published in the *Headquarters Gazette* by a writer at the time:

"The Jamboree came to a gorgeous end on Saturday night. In its closing phase, to the moment when the last Troop defiled from the Arena, this wonderful international Rally remained a brilliant spectacle, a symbol of youth triumphant, a promise of generations of men who should at last achieve that peace and goodwill on earth for which the best in all ages have striven. Enthusiasm, which had marked every stage of the proceedings during the week, grew in intensity as the hour for the breaking up of this vast assembly drew near. For a while the events followed a set programme. There were displays of physical drills, games, camp life, and so on; the Cubs gave their final howl, and the last trek-cart obstacle race took place. "Then started the great pageant which was to culminate in Sir Robert Baden-Powell being proclaimed by all nations as Chief Scout of the World. Troops representing Britain and America approached from either end of the Arena. They were preceded respectively by ladies dressed symbolically as Britannia and Liberty, and bearing the flags of Britain and the United States. Approaching one another, they embraced, and then, mounting a dais, sat down on gilt chairs. A moment later and the distant sounds of martial music reached the ear. It became clearer and clearer. The tramp of many feet could be heard, and through the mountain pass there emerged the head of one of the most extraordinary processions ever seen. The Scouts of all the world wended their way down, Troop upon Troop reached the Arena, deployed, and marched to their allotted places. Standard-bearers at the head of each company carried the flag of the country represented and the green banner of the Scouts.

"There were the familiar uniforms of the Troops of our own country and of the British Dominions, but there were also the striking dresses of the Scouts of France, Belgium, Esthonia, Greece, Holland, Luxemburg, Italy, Serbia, Siam, Spain, and Czecho-Slovakia, to mention but a few of the nationalities represented. Their costumes varied from those of the Red Indians of America, in their wonderful feather head-dress and vivid shawls, to the no less picturesque native dresses of the Balkans and the East, and of the Maoris. But khaki predominated, the loose-shirted uniform, with the Colonial hat, which has become so familiar since the hero of Mafeking launched his great scheme and people doubted whether to be



"A LEAGUE OF NATIONS" AT THE 1920 INTERNATIONAL JAMBOREE



THE SUNDAY SERVICE, OLYMPIA, 1920

amused or to take seriously these strangely clad boys, who began to appear among us. People do not laugh now. Much had happened in the thirteen years that have intervened, and a war-weary world is disposed to see in its youth the one great hope for the future.

“The Chief having taken the salute, approached Britannia and Liberty and in turn saluted them. Then in the serried ranks a movement was noticeable. The standard-bearers were coming to the front. Separating themselves from their different units, they approached the centre of the Arena and formed an imposing avenue to the dais. The Chief Scout passed under this arch of flags to the stand. The flag of each nation was dipped as he went by in token of fealty. Turning round on the highest tier of the dais, Sir Robert faced the great gathering. For a moment there was an impressive silence, and then his voice rang out. Every word sounded like a clarion note, and reached the farthest corner of the building.

“ ‘Brother Scouts,’ he said, ‘I ask you to make a solemn choice. Differences exist between the people of the world in thought and sentiment, just as they do in language and physique. The war had taught us that if one nation tries to impose its particular will upon others, cruel reaction is bound to follow. The Jamboree has taught us that if we exercise mutual forbearance and give and take, then there is sympathy and harmony. If it be your will, let us go forth from here fully determined that we will develop among ourselves and our boys that comradeship, through the world-wide spirit of the Scout brotherhood, so that we may help to develop peace and happiness in the world and goodwill among men. Brother Scouts, answer me. Will you join in this endeavour?’

“Like some strange echo which grew in intensity there came back a great shout of ‘Yes!’

“ ‘God speed you in your work,’ replied Sir Robert, ‘and fare you well.’

“Descending from the dais, the Chief stood at the salute, and the whole of the vast audience rose to their feet while the flags were dipped and a huge laurel wreath was hoisted on the flagstaff in memory of the Scouts of all nations who fell in the war. The band struck up ‘Auld Lang Syne.’ In an instant the British lads clasped hands. Seeing what their brothers were doing, and realising that it was good, the Malay boys took up the chain. From them it quickly ran to the Scouts from Jamaica, and spread with lightning rapidity to all the boys in the arena. Not stopping there, it passed on to the audience. Everywhere arms were linked as the sentiment of the song spread to every corner of the building.

“To this point there was much in the ceremony that could be attributed to splendid organisation. What followed was spontaneous. Sir Robert Baden-Powell returned to the Royal box, when there broke out the thunder of cheering which swelled in volume with every second that passed. Louder and louder it grew, until it became a deafening roar. Caps and hats were being thrown into the air in an ever-ending succession. It was a truly extraordinary scene, and one that will live in the memory of all who were fortunate enough to witness it. The Chief returned to the arena, but in a moment he was swallowed up in the sea of excited boyhood. He disappeared from view, and the next moment reappeared perched on the shoulders of some strong fellows in the centre of the surging throng. By degrees he was borne nearer the side of the arena. One supreme effort and he was free to climb up the tiers of seats till he could again reach the Royal box. In the arena it was still pandemonium. A roar as of thunder filled the whole building, but on a single bugle note it at once subsided.

“The Jamboree was over. With all the excitement of the last day there was a note of sadness in it. Good-byes had to be taken, promises to write were exchanged again and again, and on all hands was heard the one fixed hope that there would be another Jamboree very soon.”

So ended a great epoch in the Scout Movement, only to open up a still greater epoch, when Sir Robert Baden-Powell as Chief Scout not merely of the boys of the British Empire but of the whole world should see the work under his hand grow to greater dimensions that he in his most optimistic moments could ever have foreseen.

The immediate practical outcome of the Jamboree was the formation of an International Council, with a Bureau in London. Mr. Hubert Martin was appointed Director of the Bureau, and a Committee of nine

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was elected, not as representatives of countries but as experts in Scouting, to promote the international Scout brotherhood.

Affiliation to the Bureau was made open to every country which accepted, as the basis of their work, the Scout Promise and the Scout Law as originated by the Chief Scout.

For the initial cost of the establishment of the Bureau the Movement was indebted to the late Mr. F. F. Peabody, an American citizen, who was so greatly impressed with the potentialities of the Movement that he subscribed a substantial sum for this purpose.

Those nations which had been present at the Jamboree were quick to affiliate with the International Bureau, and were followed by many other countries, thus ensuring to the Chief Scout that all Associations of Scouts, no matter in what country, were working on the same ideals and in the same spirit towards an identical goal.

In January 1921 the first number appeared of an International Quarterly Scout Journal, published in four languages, and bearing the name of *Jamboree*.

In the New Year's Honours, following the Jamboree, the Chief Scout was created a baronet, an honour which was greatly appreciated throughout the whole Movement.

Although the King had not been able to visit the Jamboree he had shown a great interest in it and had taken the opportunity of inspecting at Buckingham Palace the Oversea Contingents of Scouts who had visited England for it.

The Prince of Wales was away on his Empire tours and had seen and approved of what the Movement was doing, and on his return home in 1921 he issued an appeal to the Empire on behalf of the Movement on the following terms:

ST. JAMES'S PALACE, S.W.

During my recent tours I had an opportunity of seeing the strength of the Boy Scout Movement; it has spread to every land and corner of the Empire, and its possibilities for the future, both at home and Overseas, are very great.

There is an erroneous impression abroad that the work of the Boy Scouts is carried on without money; unfortunately this is a complete misconception of the position. Considerable sums are required to meet the expenses of the Association. At least £200,000 is essential in order to "carry on" and to put the Movement on a sound footing.

On all sides I hear of grateful admiration for the men who have voluntarily carried out this work for their younger brothers during the past twelve years. I want to suggest that everybody who feels with me should express it by subscribing to a fund, which we could then offer to the Scouts Association as a mark of appreciation for its splendid work.

The Movement, as I have seen for myself, is healthy and growing steadily; last year it increased in numbers and efficiency beyond all expectation.

Will you help it to double its numbers during this next year?

(Sgd.) EDWARD P.,  
Chief Scout for Wales.

The appeal was once more whole-heartedly supported by Lord Burnham and the *Daily Telegraph*, and under the Chairmanship of Lord Waring, County Commissioner for Kent, substantial sums in donations and annual subscriptions were received both at Imperial Headquarters and throughout the Empire. While the appeal was being made the National Service League was wound up and handed over its entire assets, amounting to £12,000 to Scout Headquarters.

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The Chief Scout and Lady Baden-Powell visited India during the early part of 1921 and carried out an extensive tour of that country, where, in spite of the very many difficulties still to be overcome, Scouting was making real headway.

Mr. St. Nihal Singh, writing in the *Graphic* on April 16th, 1921, summed up the situation as far as the Indians themselves were concerned, when he said:

“The Boy Scout Movement in India, which the visit to that country of the Chief Scout, General Sir R.S.S. Baden-Powell, greatly stimulated, is full of promise. If it is so fortunate as to evolve the right type of leaders — as it seems to be doing — it will serve a great purpose in developing the sense of initiative and responsibility which the existing system of education is not particularly designed to develop in the generation which soon will be in the saddle. If it is fortunate in enlisting the support of the permanent population as well as the temporary resident community — as it appears to be doing — it may serve as a bridge connecting the various communities. Both these tasks are crying out to be done.

“That eminent Indians like Sir Narayan Chandavarkar, the Speaker of the Bombay Legislature, and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, one of the principal founders of the Hindu University, should take a deep interest in the Indian Boy Scout Movement shows that Indians have realised its value as a means rapidly to build up the physique and character of the new generation. The manner in which Scouting is being taken up by Indian boys in all parts of the country signifies that it is in consonance with Indian ideas, and suited to the Indian genius.”

On the Prince of Wales's return from his world tour in 1922 there was a general desire throughout the Movement to thank His Royal Highness for all that he had done for the Scouts both at home and Overseas; and plans were drawn up for a great Rally to be held in his honour.

This took the form of a “Posse of Welcome,” and was held on October 7th, 1922.

Here the Prince made his first appearance wearing the Scout hat and shorts of the boys, thus identifying himself once and for all with Scouting.

Mr. Sidney Dark's description of the occasion may be quoted here:

“The Boy Scout Posse of Welcome to the Prince of Wales at the Alexandra Palace was a prodigious and amazing occasion. To begin with, before Saturday afternoon, October 7th, no man had ever seen 19,000 small boys so closely packed together in one solid mass, and certainly no man had ever heard a howl from 19,000 young, healthy throats. The Prince of Wales stood on the Council Rock. Round him was a deep circle of green-capped Cubs, the line of green being broken at one place by a small khaki group consisting of the Duke of Connaught, the President of the Boy Scouts Association; Sir Robert Baden-Powell, the Chief Scout; and Scout Commissioners and officials. By the Prince's side stood a small, bright-faced and entirely self-possessed Cub. There was not the slightest suggestion of nervousness about this small boy. He chatted to the Prince and explained the procedure. He was not in the least disturbed by the presence of dignitaries. He had his job to do. He knew exactly how to do it. His was the right professional assurance. The small boy led the Howl, and right well he did it. The Cubs howled together. Theirs was no ragged, meaningless noise. It was a disciplined salutation; as the Prince said himself, a splendid Howl indeed.

“It was a great experience to be wedged in the green-capped circle. The boys, none of them over twelve, and most of the apparently about nine, were so good to look at — so clean and wholesome and good-looking. The pessimist is always telling us that England has passed its zenith and that tomorrow cannot possibly be anything more than a pale shadow of our yesterday. The Wolf Cubs at the Alexandra Palace were a shrill, eager contradiction of this pessimistic faith. As I looked at them (shall a hardened journalist confess, with a little lump in my throat), the question occurred to me, ‘What do they know of England who only grown-ups know?’ Mr. Rudyard Kipling was among the distinguished

visitors at the Posse, thought it was not his fortune to hear the Wolf Cubs' Howl. I wonder if the same question occurred to him?

“As remarkable as the Howl was the silence that followed it, and again one felt that in some mysterious way these thousands of healthy, noisy boys had learned discipline. They had been taught to obey, and there was a great silence when the Prince of Wales spoke to them — a few simple, cheery sentences, made audible to the whole crowd by an ingenious arrangement of electric megaphones installed by the Marconi Company. I have heard many longer and duller speeches. I never heard a speech more sincere and more appropriate. The Prince said”

“ ‘Cubs, I have seen Wolf Cubs in many parts of the world, but I have never seen so big a Pack before, nor have I ever heard such a Howl. What a Howl! It was quite splendid. I was glad to hear it, because I know you mean it when you say you will do your best to carry out what “Old Wolf” tells you. Stick to that. Always try to do your best whether at work or play. And then don't forget your good turns to other people, and especially do your best in helping your mothers in your homes. Never forget, all through your life, that if you do your best you cannot do better. So good luck to you all.’

“When the Prince of Wales had finished his speech, at the bidding of the Chief Scout, the Cubs cheered and cheered again. Scores of small boys then dashed into the middle of the ring and vigorously turned somersaults, the Prince walked right round the ring cheerily chatting to dozens of boys who will assuredly remember Saturday, October 7th, 1922, even when they are grey-haired men, and then, having shaken hands with Peter Baden-Powell and Mr. N. D. Power, the Chief Wolf Cub Commissioner, he and the Duke of Connaught and the Chief Scout got into their motor-cars amid another tornado of shrill cheers, and made their way to the Alexandra Palace lake. The Cubs' Bunderlog was at an end.

“I arrived at the Palace soon after midday, eager to obtain as complete an impression as possible of the mighty gathering of boys in whom are the hope and the promise of a happy England — 19,000 Wolf Cubs, 40,000 Scouts, 2,000 Rovers, young men over the Scout age but filled with the Scout spirit, and unwilling to part company with the Association that has brought back chivalry to a utilitarian world. The Rovers were the police of the great assemblage — quiet, tactful, every one of them knowing his job and doing it well, never lacking in courtesy, never lacking in knowledge. Bodies of Scouts and Cubs were still arriving, and inside the Palace grounds the various detachments were marching to their assigned positions. There was not fuss and apparently no blundering. And long before the business of the day began I felt that I was in touch with something really big, something extraordinarily human, a national promise, a national assurance.

“An hour or so before the Prince of Wales arrived Sir Robert Baden-Powell and his staff went to the Rally ground, where the long line of Scouts were already drawn up. Sir Robert mounted the platform at the saluting base with the Vicomte de al Panouse, the French military attache in London, who, on behalf of the French Ambassador, who was unable to be present, and in the name of the President of the French Republic, decorated the Chief Scout with the Legion of Honour, touching him lightly on both shoulders with his sword and kissing him on both cheeks. Then we all stood to attention while a band of very small boys with very large trumpets played the Marseillaise, and then, after the Chief Scout had bestowed the Silver Wolf on a Scoutmaster from Ceylon, we hurried back to the Palace for the arrival of the Prince.

“I was just a quarter past three when the Duke of Connaught arrived, wearing Field Marshal's uniform, and attended by an officer of the Welsh Guards. From beginning to end the Alexandra Palace Posse of Welcome was a jolly party, one of the jolliest parties to which I was ever invited, and no one among all the thousands who were there was jollier or enjoyed himself more than the Duke of Connaught. The Duke is over seventy, but he is extraordinarily tireless. He gossiped to everyone, smiled at everyone, and he did not sit down five minutes during the two and a half hours that the ceremonies lasted. The Prince of Wales arrived ten minutes after his great-uncle. He looked very slim and young in his Scout's uniform, with bare knees and short knickers, carrying a very long staff. The Prince has now had a long experience of public functions, but he has not lost his appealing air of shyness. The Chief Scout received the Prince at the bottom of the steps at the west entrance of the Palace. At the tope of the steps the Welsh

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Scouts and Wolf Cubs were drawn up, with a small Negro in the middle of the front row, and, while various presentations were being made to the Prince, the Welsh boys sang 'God Bless the Prince of Wales' as well as Welsh boys are expected to sing.

"It has been my fate to be present at many royal functions, and there is one thing that happened at the Alexandra Palace which always happens on these occasions, and which I always find interesting and a little mysterious. British princes happily go among the British people quite informally and unattended by soldiers or even by police. But in a quiet, most unobtrusive way they are guarded from possible assault from lunatics. You will always find two or three well-dressed, quiet gentlemen standing in front of the crowds, and if you have had the long journalistic experience that I have had you will recognise them as detectives from Scotland Yard. The funny thing is that you never see these detectives arrive. They seem to pop up mysteriously from nowhere. They popped up at the Alexandra Palace, and wherever the Prince went they were close by. I am still wondering how they did it, because the Prince went from place to place in a motor-car, and there was no car for these unfortunates.

"Immediately after his reception by the Chief Scout the Prince went to the Cubs' Bunderlog, which I have already described. Then came the inspection of the Sea Scouts, who were drawn up beside the lake. The Sea Scouts were, on the whole, rather older than the land Scouts — splendid, healthy, well-set-up lads. They were commanded by Admiral Hickley, a typical stocky naval man, and nearly all the Scoutmasters were obvious sailors, many of them bearded and middle-aged, all of them of the class that is still the best that England can produce. The Prince was much impressed by the Sea Scouts, as, indeed, was the Duke of Connaught, who stopped a dozen times and gossiped with the sons and fathers of the sea. Some of the Sea Scouts exhibited their prowess in knot-tying and rope-splicing, others climbed ropes and performed other feats, and the Prince was interested in it all.

"A marquee had been erected by the side of the lake, and here were assembled the Scouts' distinguished visitors: Colonel Harvey, the American Ambassador, tall and slim, with large tortoiseshell-rimmed spectacles, accompanied by two officers of the United States Navy; the Japanese Ambassador, very quiet and demure; the Vicomte de al Panouse, in his light blue French uniform; the Gaekwar of Baroda with two other Indian gentlemen; Mr. Rudyard Kipling, correctly top-hatted, attended by a Scout guide whom he declared he would not allow out of his sight until he was safely piloted out of the Palace grounds; Lady Baden-Powell, in Girl Guide uniform, and many others.

"The Sea Scouts' display on the lake was excellent fun. Two small boys constructed a raft and paddled it across the water. Other boys fell out of boats and gave exhibitions of life-saving. There was a water tug-of-war and an exhibition of rescuing from a wreck, Scouts being hauled across a rope stretched across the lake and only escaping a bump on the cement shore as by a miracle. While all these jolly things were happening a house on fire was cleverly imitated on the side of the lake opposite the Prince, the occupants being saved by a Scouts Fire Brigade. The Prince decorated Sir Alfred Codrington with the Silver Wolf, and then embarked in a boat and was rowed by Scouts to his car, a voyage of at least thirty yards.

"And so, as Mr. Pepys would say, to the great Rally. The extensive grounds of the Alexandra Palace are on the slope of a hill. The terraces of the Palace itself were filled with an immense crowd of onlookers, the fathers and mothers, uncles and aunts, and even grandfathers and grandmothers of Scouts and Cubs, in happy holiday mood, as proud of their boys as they ought to have been. In the front of this great crowd were the distinguished visitors and some hundreds of Girl Guides, perhaps just a little jealous that they were spectators and not actors in the play. As the Prince arrived at the Rally ground the Royal Standard was broken on the flagstaff and the long line of Scouts drawn up at the bottom of the hill gave the first of the long series of might cheers.

"Immediately in front of the platform and the Standard, and some distance from the main body of the Scouts, was a line of King's Scouts, life-savers, and boys from Overseas, a body of English Scouts from Paris, French Scouts, Dutch Scouts, Belgian Scouts, and Scouts from the Argentine and from Czecho-Slovakia. Between this front line and the spectators there were several Scout bands and many most

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THE CHIEF SCOUT FOR WALES

interesting exhibitions of Scout prowess. One lot of youths were throwing lassoes in a bewildering way; others sawed huge logs of wood and hacked at them with formidable-looking axes; another group gave a perfectly splendid exhibition on the parallel bars; other boys built a hut; others lighted fires; and altogether one learned in a few minutes how many splendid things Scouts are taught to do, how well they do them, and how much better it is to be young and healthy and a Scout than it is to be old and tired and unable to throw lassoes or perform on the parallel bars.

“While we watched all these grand things the Prince — who had been invested with the Silver Wolf by the Duke of Connaught — and the Chief Scout inspected the long line. I was immediately impressed by the Prince’s thoroughness. The inspection took him nearly an hour, and he did not miss one section. He was evidently interested, evidently impressed. When he came back to the saluting base various presentations were made to him, and he had quite a long chat to Scout Marr, who was on the *Quest*, and who, if one may judge from his appearance, has certainly not been physically damaged by his experiences. Then the Prince mounted the platform. Here again was an intensely human scene — this one, slim, boyish figure standing conspicuous and alone with tens of thousands of boys in front of him and tens of thousands of men and women behind him. At a signal from Lord Hampton, the Chief Commissioner, the Scouts at the bottom of the hill gave a mighty yell and with waving flags and pennons charged up to the front line. It was a terrific rush at full speed and up hill, and it was not surprising that a few of the weaker brethren were left behind. After the rush, and a ripple of uncontrollable cheers, discipline and silence were again enforced, and the Prince made his second speech. He again spoke into a sort of telephone receiver, and his words were carried to every part of the great crowd by means of six megaphones. He was every bit as happy in talking to the older boys as he had been to the Cubs. He said:

“ ‘Scouts, I want, in the first place, to thank you for turning up in such large numbers and from such long distances to give me this great welcome. I know in these hard times how difficult it must have been for many of you, and for your parents too, so I appreciate it all the more. On my travels during the last three years I have seen your brother Scouts in most parts of the world Overseas, with the same old hats, staves, and bare knees, and the same old smile when things looked bad. And they were doing the same good turns to other people that you are doing.

“ ‘You are members of a very big and jolly brotherhood, and you are doing a fine thing by making yourselves strong, active, efficient Scouts, because you are thereby carrying out your motto — “Be Prepared” — to be good useful citizens for your country and for the greater brotherhood of free nations which form the British Empire. There is no higher duty than that. So stick to it, and do it well, and good luck to you.’

“Immediately the Prince finished his speech Sir Robert Baden-Powell sprang on to the platform. ‘Scouts, hats on staves, three cheers for the Prince of Wales!’ And what cheers they were! The boys had been holding themselves in for this one culminating moment, and great waves of sound came from their ranks, ornamented as it were by the ripple of flags and pennons. As the cheering died down the Welsh Scouts sang ‘Land of my Fathers,’ and then the Prince read a message from the King and called for three cheers for him, the band played the National Anthem, and the great day was over.

“As I hurried out of the Palace grounds I thought of three anxious, rather tired Scout officials whose job it was to get the boys who had come from far away countries back to their homes. The first special train was timed to leave at a quarter to six, and it was past half-past five when the Rally was over. Yet I felt convinced that the first train went away filled up to time. The Scout organisation is devised to perform marvels. Indeed, a few minutes after the Prince left the saluting base bodies of Scouts were already on the march home. Some of the smaller boys were obviously weary and dragged a little, but the fitness of the elder boys was shown by the fine precision with which they marched away.

“Personally, I shall not easily forget the eagerness of the Prince, who apparently finds it so hard to leave boyhood behind, the smiling interest of the Duke of Connaught, the keen, humorous humanity of the Chief Scout, and the tireless, eminently practical enthusiasm of his staff, most of them mature men leading busy professional lives.

“I hope very much that Colonel Harvey, the American Ambassador, was as impressed as I was. We were showing him our best, and the better America thinks of England and the better England thinks of America the better is it for the world.

“And I wonder what the Japanese Ambassador who sat so still and inscrutable, thought of it all.”

The Prince of Wales had always been a supporter of Scout training, but it was generally remarked that after the Posse His Royal Highness definitely threw in his lot with the Movement.

In the New Year’s Honours the following January the Chief Scout was awarded the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order.

## CHAPTER VIII

### THE GIRL GUIDES

*The start of the Sister Movement — A Conference at Matlock in 1916 — Lady Baden-Powell elected Chief Guide — Foxlease — Co-operation with Boy Scouts approved.*

“It is right time that our right hand knew more of what our left hand is doing.”

— A Girl Guide Commissioner, 1928.

It is obvious that no History of the Boy Scout Movement could pretend to be complete without some reference to its great Sister Movement, the Girl Guides, which grew up side by side with the Scouts and which in 1929 had overtaken the Boy Scouts in the matter of numbers within the United Kingdom.

I have purposely omitted all mention of Guides in the earlier pages of the book in order to be able to devote this chapter to a brief chronological sketch of the early history of the Movement.

The “Girl Guides” as such were “founded” by Sir Robert Baden-Powell in 1910; but their growth, like that of the Boy Scouts, was spontaneous, and no actual date can be given for the first appearance of girls in the Movement.

At the Crystal Palace Rally of 1909 a small body of girls, calling themselves “Scouts,” paraded for inspection, wearing a uniform designed to imitate as nearly as possible that of their brothers the Scouts. Their text-book was *Scouting for Boys*, and the Scout Headquarters officials were in no small difficulty as to how to deal with this unlooked-for accession to the ranks.

Unwilling to damp their enthusiasm, and pending some more suitable arrangement, a somewhat nonplussed Scout Secretary dealt to the best of his ability with their enquiries and requests for recognition.

One of these “Girl Scouts” of early days wrote in 1928:

“The First Mayfair Troop numbered twenty-four in all, and included the names of a good many who are Guides to-day. The name of the patient District Secretary who looked after us was Oliver P. Beeman. I often wonder if he is still in the Movement, and feel that the present development of the Guides most compensate for all the trouble we gave him. For I am sure we were thorns in his flesh at the time. One of the Girl Scouts was awarded the Medal of Merit for saving her brother, who fell into a river.... We used to track round Eaton Square and even pitched a tent there. I can’t think what the gardener was about! When Guides started we refused to join them, for having been peewits and kangaroos we thought it a great

come-down to become White Roses and Lilies-of-the-Valley. However, since then nearly all of the Troop have become Guides.”

Having once admitted the principle of a Movement for girls there was no drawing back, and the Chief Scout set to work with his sister’s help to devise a scheme which would meet their enthusiasm without incurring the disapproval of their parents or the antagonism of the Boy Scouts.

He realised that the name “Scout” in connection with girls would not merely alienate the parents but would also keep boys away from what they had hitherto regarded as a manly pursuit; and after some consideration the word “Guide” was substituted — a happy term conveying the subtly flattering suggestion that a woman’s job was to guide her menfolk rather than meekly to imitate them.

The new name, however, was not received with any great enthusiasm by those would-be-boys who had “heard the call of the wild”; nor did the new Handbook, adapted by Miss Agnes Baden-Powell from *Scouting for Boys* by the substitution of feminine names and occupations, altogether meet the case. *How Girls can help to Build the Empire*, as the book was called, was too much watered down for active girls, and not sufficiently watered down for Edwardian parents, to approve; and the substitution of nursing and domestic work for some of the more boyish pursuits did not at first appeal very widely.

Altogether the Movement in its new garb hung fire for some time, and many lookers-on expected it to die a natural death.

Here and there, however, Guiding was taken up keenly, and, once started, the Movement, small though it was, required administration, leadership and finance.

At the request of the Chief Scout and his sister certain wide-visioned ladies came forward to form a Headquarters Committee. A small office and equipment depot in London were housed in a little room at the end of a narrow passage at 116 Victoria Street, and the name of the organisation was put up on a small brass plate, amongst a host of others, at the street entrance.

It was in February, 1911, that the first Guide Conference was held, the Boy Scouts lending a room for the purpose, and it was then decided to register the name of *Baden-Powell Girl Guides*. In 1912 H.R.H. Princess Louise accepted the position of Patroness. At this time the late Mrs. Lumley Holland was chairman of the Headquarters Committee, and she was one of the first to realise that Guiding would become a great national movement, and would help to fit girls for the wider social, political and industrial careers that were then opening for them. Later on it was she who was instrumental in starting the *Girl Guides Gazette*, as she maintained that it was essential to have an official Guide paper to draw scattered Guide units together.

Guiding was soon to be carried to America by the late Mrs. Low, and already well-organised Guides were to be found in Canada, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, France and Germany, running independently of the parent organisation.

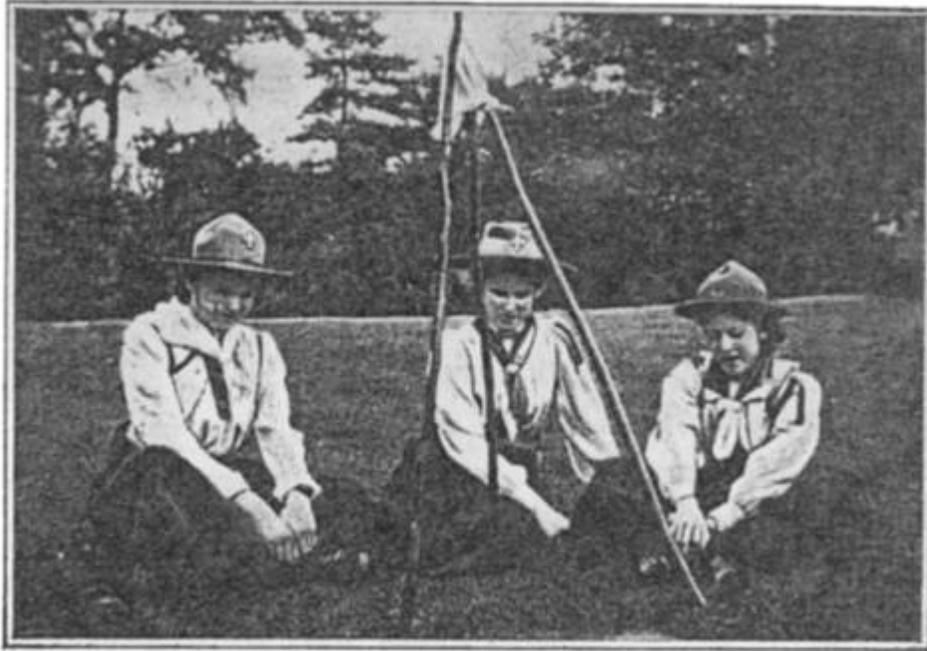
In 1912 and the following year Guides came before the public, first in the great juvenile March Past in Hyde Park arranged by Lord Meath on Empire Day, and again at the Children’s Welfare Exhibition, where they gave demonstrations of practical work such as cooking, handicrafts, nursing, etc.

With the Chief Scout’s marriage in 1912 came the real turning point for the Girl Guide Movement. Small as it was at that time, there mere fact that it had survived the almost overwhelming difficulties of criticism, and lack of understanding, leadership and funds, was proof that there must be something in it which had its appeal for the girl of the period; and after watching its struggles for some little time Lady Baden-Powell decided to turn her attention from the flourishing and popular Boy Scout Movement and to throw in her lot with the little-known, much-criticised and often completely misunderstood Girl Guides.

It was thanks to her personality more than to any other single factor that the Girl Guide Movement was able to save its soul alive.

At Headquarters there seemed to be no room for an untried though energetic worker; but as Commissioner for the County of Sussex Lady Baden-Powell found scope for her enthusiasm and powers

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GIRL SCOUTS, 1909



GIRL GUIDES, 1928

for organisation; and with the Boy Scouts as a model she reorganised that county so thoroughly, sparing neither time, energy nor petrol, that at the end of the year there was no district without its Commissioner, and hardly a village without its local organisation, while new companies of keen Girl Guides were springing up everywhere.

The success achieved in her home county gave Lady Baden-Powell proof of two things; first, that the Movement had a definite appeal and where properly organised had a future before it; secondly, that there was an immense amount of energy lying dormant throughout the country which might as well be directed towards fostering the Girl Guide Movement with its excellent ideals of good citizenship, health and happiness.

Up to this time there had been no *Book of Rules*, and the only printed means of communication between the members of the Movement was two pages in *Golden Rule*, which in 1911 took the place of one page in *Home Notes*, through the courtesy of Messrs. C. A. Pearson Ltd. It was not till 1914 that the Movement embarked on a paper of its own, and the *Girl Guide Gazette* was started.

The outbreak of the Great War in August brought a further increase of membership, and children saw, in joining the Guides, a way of helping their country. At the suggestion of the Chief Scout warm clothes were knitted by Guides for Scouts on coastguard work, and in 1915 a small room in a basement in Westminster was fitted out by Guides for use in case of air raids. People gradually began to find out that girls trained in the Movement could be relied upon, and many hospitals valued the services of Guides in their neat navy blue uniform, for scrubbing, cleaning or washing bandages on their free Saturday afternoons. Many other ways of helping were found. At the suggestion of Lady Baden-Powell, who was working in France, enough money was raised for the purchase of an army hut, and in 1917, by collecting waste paper, and earning money in their spare evening, enough money was eventually raised to present the British Army, through the Princess Mary, with a motor ambulance. For a year and a half it went to and fro at the Front, receiving many wounds, and it is satisfactory to know that it is ending its days at Gilwell Park, the Scoutmasters' training place.

In 1916 Mrs. Mark Kerr, who had been one of the earliest workers in the Movement, was persuaded to rejoin it as Commissioner for London; while in the North of England the Guides had already established a firm foothold under the direction of Miss Alice Behrens, who had seen possibilities in the scheme from the first.

On September 24th, 1915, the Movement was granted a Charter of Incorporation by the Board of Trade, the membership being at the time over 38,000.

The first Conference of Commissioners was held at Matlock Bath, in 1916, and showed the Guide Movement to be at least seven years behind the Boy Scouts in development; for questions which, as affecting the boys, had been discussed at the Crystal Palace Conference in 1909, were brought forward at Matlock as bases of organisation for the Guides.

The outstanding features of this Conference, at which the Chief Scout, Lady Baden-Powell and the writer were present, were, first, the election of Lady Baden-Powell as Chief Commissioner, and secondly the enrolment by her of all the ladies present as "Guides" after they had taken the Promise of the Sisterhood. This marked the beginning of a new spirit in the Movement. "Officers" became elder sisters, and gradually the word "Guider" took the place of more military titles, with a corresponding simplification of uniform and equipment.

As Chief Commissioner, Lady Baden-Powell had a free hand to organise the whole of the Empire as thoroughly as she had organised Sussex, and she lost no time in setting her house in order. Her enthusiasm met with immediate response, and in 1918 she was unanimously elected "Chief Guide" by a vote of the whole Movement sent through the Commissioners.

Long before this, however, it had become evident that the tide had turned in favour of the Girl Guides; prejudice had given place to approval, and the work which the Guides, as an organised body, were able to do during the war had gone far to win the public support in their favour.

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During the autumn of 1916 there was a fire at the London Headquarters. The Guides were thus forced to leave their cramped little rooms and migrate to larger premises at 76 Victoria Street, and later a further venture of a Guide Shop at 84 Victoria Street was made, which soon became the main source of supply to defray the working expenses of Headquarters, and was proving itself successful even before the advent of an Hon. Treasurer in the form of Mr. P. W. Everett, a member of the Boy Scout Committee. Under his guidance the equipment department of the Movement grew to such an extent as to supply a steady income for maintenance and development.

In 1918 the experimental Handbook was replaced by *Girl Guiding*, a much-needed text-book which, based on experience of what would appeal, was less an adaptation of the Scout book and more of a real "guide" to good citizenship for girls than the earlier volume.

With a Headquarters Committee composed of active workers, administration decentralised, and each county under the care of a competent Commissioner, the Chief Guide was gradually able to devote more time to the Oversea branches of the Movement. In all the Oversea Dominions and in many foreign countries Guiding had been taken up, and, while a little behind the home branch in its development, its workers were looking for a lead from home. The name "Girl Scout" died harder Overseas than it had done at home; and though the word "Guides" was finally adopted for the whole Empire, the United States of America preferred to keep their title of "Scouts," which was the name under which they had started.

The network of organisation was completed during the war, and at the conclusion of peace an army of disciplined and enthusiastic women workers came in to sell the ranks of the Guiders. Many who had held important posts abroad came in to work under the Chief Guide in the cause of Guiding. In 1920 Princess Mary became President.

"Training Weeks" were established in different parts of the country, and in 1922 a Training Centre, Foxlease Park, charmingly situated in the New Forest, was presented to the movement by Mrs. Anne Archbold and largely financed by H.R.H. Princess Mary on the occasion of her wedding. In 1921 a Royal Charter was granted to the Movement, showing that it was officially approved as a great and growing organisation for girls.

This very brief and inadequate sketch of the early history of the Girl Guide Movement is given because in later day the two movements became so closely linked that in writing or speaking of one it is impossible to be altogether silent about the other.

At first the two Movements, working to the same end, carrying out the same ideals, and existing side by side in many places, knew very little about one another. But as the wives of many Scout Commissioners became Guide Commissioners, and the sisters of Scouters became Guiders, a closer alliance gradually came about, and while each Movement retains its own autonomy, the leaders found that by coming together each could benefit from the other's experience.

In 1928 the Chief Scout and the Chief Guide set the seal of approval on such co-operation by bringing together the leaders of both Movements at a Birthday luncheon party and suggesting that co-operation along certain lines was not only permissible but eminently desirable, as strengthening both branches for the fulfilment of their joint aim of happy, healthy, helpful citizenship for the oncoming generation.

"For hand in hand they can make a stand  
Which neither could make alone."

## CHAPTER IX

### BACK TO SCOUTING

*“Headquarters Gazette” becomes “The Scouter” — The chalet at Kandersteg is acquired — The Imperial Jamboree at Wembley — The Rover Moot in London.*

IN January 1923 the *Headquarters Gazette* became *The Scouter*, under which new title it continued to flourish as a most popular adjunct to the Movement.

The year 1923 was marked, in the first instance, by a big push forward in the matter of camping — not only at home but also abroad.

The International Scouts acquired a chalet at Kandersteg in Switzerland to form a centre for international camping, and this was immediately made use of by the Scouts of all countries.

At home the restrictions putting a ban on camping, which had been slow to disappear after the war, were gradually being done away with, and more Scouts than ever before managed to get a real camping holiday under canvas.

The Chief Scout and Lady Baden-Powell paid another visit to Canada at the invitation of the National Council of Education, where the Chief addressed meetings and inspected Scouts in eight big centres from St. John to Vancouver. The progress of the Movement, and particularly its effects in “Canadianising” the mixed nationalities which go to make up Canada, were very marked since his last visit.

At home preparations were going busily ahead for another great Scout Jamboree.

Sir Henry McMahon, one of the Managing Directors of the Wembley Empire Exhibition, had approached the Chief Scout in 1922 with the suggestion that the Scouts should hold an Imperial Jamboree in the Stadium in connection with the Empire Exhibition in 1924.

The idea was at once submitted by the Chief to the High Commissioners for the various Dominions, all of whom replied sympathetically, and saying that they would refer the question to their respective Prime Ministers.

The scheme was therefore proceeded with, and invitations despatched to the Dominions, most of which were quick to avail themselves of such an opportunity.

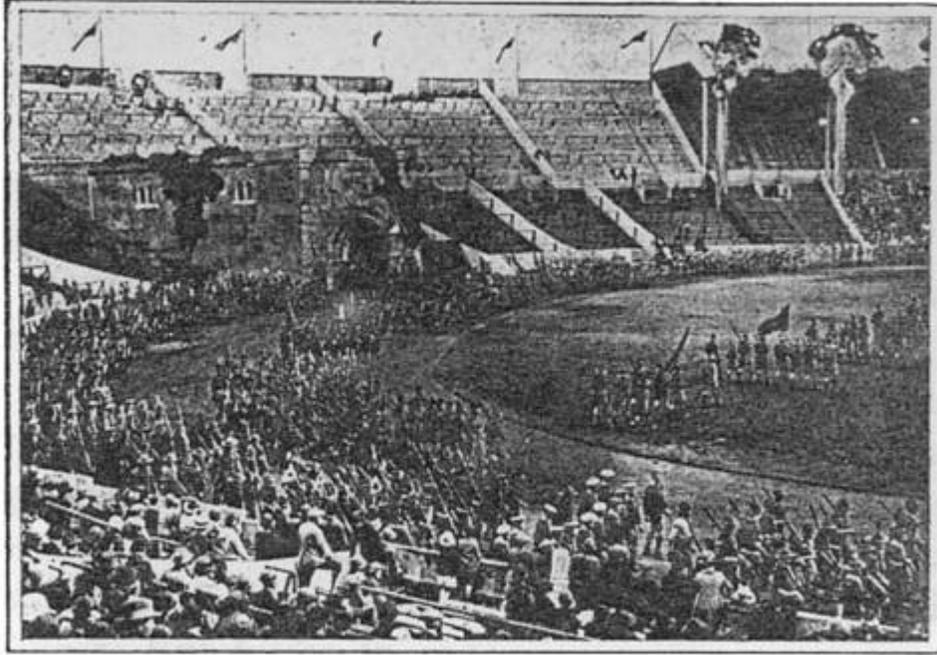
The Jamboree was designed much on the same lines as that at Olympia, but in view of the nature of the Exhibition, emphasis was laid on the Imperial side rather than the International.

It was a much more difficult undertaking than the Olympia Jamboree owing to the immensity of the place selected, the long distances to be covered, and the enormous number of counter-attractions for the public visiting Wembley.

Nevertheless, the 1924 Jamboree was entirely successful in its purpose of bringing together Scouts of the Empire, in friendly rivalry and comradeship, in the developing and consolidating of goodwill among the youth of the different States of the great Commonwealth, and in showing to the public the lines on which Scout training for good citizenship is carried out, viz. through

Character and Intelligence,  
Handicrafts and Skill,  
Health and Strength,  
Service for Others.

Teams of Scouts from all corners of the Empire came together and gave demonstrations on these main lines of their training. In many cases the displays illustrated local history and characteristics, thus making



THE PROCESSION OF FLAGS AT THE IMPERIAL JAMBOREE, WEMBLEY, 1924



THE PRINCE OF WALES AT THE WEMBLEY CAMP FIRE, 1924

the whole show one of unique and educational interest both to the Scouts themselves and to the general public.

Among other items a Pageant representing Australia Past and Present was given by the Australian Scouts; Manchester staged a pageant of "Cotton within the Empire"; Nottingham sent its famous Troop of "tumblers"; four hundred Ulster Scouts provided a useful display illustrating Scout training generally; Sussex filled the Arena well with its "March of Time through Sussex."

The displays were all of a high order, but perhaps the one which evoked the most enthusiasm was that of the massed dancing of the Scottish Scouts, when a thousand boys wearing the kilt converged on the Arena with pipes skirling and kilts swinging, and delighted the audience with their display of Highland dancing.

During the week of the Jamboree the Prince of Wales visited the Stadium and saw the displays, after which he spent a night in camp with the 12,000 Scouts camped at Wembley Paddocks and took part in their sing-song and the dancing of a reel.

On the following day His Royal Highness attended a great Thanksgiving Service in the Stadium, when the Archbishop of York addressed, with the help of loud-speakers, a body of 21,000 Scouts, together with a large number of the general public.

It was a wonderfully impressive occasion.

A writer summing it up afterwards said:

"As one sat and looked down upon the great human carpet flashing out every colour of the rainbow, one realised the enormous responsibilities of a Scouter's work; here was no gathering of twigs too unbending to be trained into shape, but here were twigs of Empire, twigs of God in the process of being trained for good by Scouting."

After the Archbishop's inspiring address the Prince of Wales said a few words of encouragement to the Scouts, and the Chief Scout then called upon all present to renew their Scout Promise and to reconsecrate themselves to the service of God, King and Empire.

Many of the Scouts present had had a long trek to the Jamboree; some of them had had to make sacrifices to enable them to come there; but it is certain that none of them will ever forget the occasion or regret one moment of time spent there.

The Duke of York, President for the London Scouts, also visited the Stadium during the Jamboree and saw a special "Wolf Cub" show. On this occasion Mr. Rudyard Kipling, to whom the Cub Movement owed so much, was also present and saw some of his own stories brought to life.

The Camp at Wembley Paddocks, where Lord Glanusk, assisted by a gallant band of helpers, was in charge, was a great success. The following figures will give some impression of the size of the Camp:

The greatest number in camp together	12,461.
Disciplinary cases reported	Nil.
Largest number of cases admitted to Camp Hospital in one day	20.
Bones broken	Nil.
Grounds covered by tents	41 acres.
Length of water-pipes specially laid	14,920 ft.
Quantity of water conserved daily in camp	75,000 gallons
Packets dealt with by camp post office	106,379.
Railway warrants issued by Imperial Headquarters	28,494 persons.
Length of messing marquees alone	4,500 ft.
Length of suet roll for one lunch	500 yds.
Plates washed up daily	68,000.

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Vegetable dishes, baking tins and dixies in daily use	5,500.
Marmalade and jam used	1 ton 3 cwt. daily.
Bread consumed	6,000 loaves daily.
Tea consumed	250 lbs. daily.
Ice cream blocks and cornets bought in camp	175,000.
Plates broken	6.4 per cent.
Time take by Scouts to pass main gateway <i>en route</i> to the Sunday service, in fours	2½ hours.

From Wembley most of the Scout contingents from Overseas proceeded to Denmark, where a great International Rally and camp was held, and where Scouting demonstrations were given and fresh friendships established among the Scouts of many nations.

While these more noticeable events, in which after all only comparatively few of the Scouts could take part, were taking place, the actual work of the Troops at home and Overseas was going on quietly, the numbers increasing steadily year by year.

As the value of the training became more widely recognised it was taken up not only by Preparatory and the great Public Schools, but also in its Senior Branch by the Universities.

Eton introduced Scouting into its lower school in 1921, and since that time almost every Public School in England has taken up the training.

With this principle established and the development of the Rover branch it seemed as if the dearth of Scoutmasters, which had always been the great difficulty in the Movement, was at last about to be remedied.

At Easter 1926 the Rovers held a great Moot in London at the Albert Hall, when a ceremonial for a Rover Investiture was demonstrated and when the numbers and spirit of those present made a very great impression.

In the Spring of 1926 the Chief Scout and Lady Baden-Powell paid a brief visit to the United States, and in the Autumn of the same year they left for a seven months' tour in South Africa, where they travelled 8,489 miles inspecting and encouraging Scouts and Girl Guides and promoting the Movement throughout the Union and in Rhodesia.

In 1927 a Conference of Scouters was held at Bournemouth, and during the week-end the Scouters present visited Brownsea Island and held a Thanksgiving Service on the spot where twenty years earlier the first Troop of Scouts in the world had held their camp.

Looking back of the twenty intervening years it seemed to those who remembered the earlier camp almost incredible that from the tiny acorn so large an oak should have grown, the branches of which had extended not only to every part of the Empire but to every corner of the civilised world, from Iceland to Chile, from Tristan da Cunha to Japan.

On July 30th, 1928, the actual survivors of the original Brownsea camp lunched with the Chief Scout at his home in Hampshire. Of the twenty-seven original members whose names appear in an earlier chapter of this history seven had died or been killed in the war, six were Overseas, and the remaining twelve were present at this small but historic gathering of the "nucleus" of Boy Scouting.

Many of the happiest memories were revived, and though Mr. Everett was the only man, apart from the Chief Scout, who was still actively at work in the Movement, all present spoke of the great benefit which they had derived from their Boy Scouting training.

Lord Rodney, who was unable to join the party, wrote from Canada to acknowledge a group photograph of the occasion. "It should go down to future generations as historic as representing the beginning of the greatest movement for good that the world has ever seen. I would give anything to have been able to be present to have talked over old days and to have renewed acquaintance with yourself. I often think of those days as the good old time before the war, and that first Boy Scout camp has always

stood out as one of the landmarks of my life, representing one of the happiest fortnights of my childhood.”

Another outstanding even of the year was the second great “Moot” of Rovers held at the Birmingham Training Camp at Yorks Wood. Dr. Griffin, whose book *The Quest of the Boy* had given valuable suggestion to Rover training, put forward a further suggestion for a definite programme of Rover service in the form of Knightly “Quests.” In the presence of the Chief Scout and a thousand Rover leaders and Rovers a Pageant illustrating The Quest of Service was performed, and this Pageant and Conference left its undoubted mark on the Rover training of future years.

During 1928 plans were already taking shape for the big Jamboree of 1929 which was to be the official mark of the “coming of age” of the Scout Movement. At Arrowe Park, Birkenhead, in August the father of Scouting celebrates the twenty-first birthday of his child. The infant which he so carefully tended has grown into healthy childhood and is now approaching man’s estate. Let us see to it that this great Movement which the Chief called into existence and to which he has devoted so much of his life remains worthy of the trust which he has put in it.

*Index not included in this e-edition.*